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Tuesday February 13 1996

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lan Katz's 12-step programme TOW TOWN

anescar Guardian 2 with European weather



Universities in the year 2000

Adrian Searle on ice sculpture

Edication The Big Chil

Ministers draw up new scheme for forum aimed at winning support from Hume and Unionists

British peace plan emerges

Dublin seizes on new hope

Michael White David Sharrock and Patrick Wintous

AGILE hopes o rescuing the Northern Ireland the peace process emerged from the rubble of the IRA's South Quay bomb last night as the British and Irish governments groped towards a compromise formula which could still lead to early election and all-party talks — including Sinn Fein representatives.

A conciliatory John Major won the virtually unanimous support of a sombre House of Commons for his renewed commitment to a constitutional settlement which he coupled with a challenge to Sinn Fein to denounce political violence.

But sentor Dublin ministers enthusiastically seized on his simultaneous hint of esh flexibility in the wake of their quarrel over the Mitch-ell Commission report. The Taoiseach, John Bruton, and his deputy, Dick Spring, both welcomed Mr Major's "clear and direct" link between elections and the elusive all-party negotiations.

There were strong pointers from both sides last night that the leaders of the Ulster Unionists and John Hume's Social Democratic and Labour Party had been pri-vately signalling concessions last week designed to deliver a elected forum in the prov-ince in May, and rapid, timelimited negotiations within it immediately

afterwards. "The bomb came at a time when we were very close to a formula that would have enabled us to move forward very quickly," Mr Bruton told Channel 4 News last night.



A three-year-old boy is held aloft at a rally at Belfast City Hall yesterday at which thousands backed the continuation of the peace process

that British ministers are privately proposing a 90-strong forum, elected from 18 multimember seats, from which small teams of negotiations would be drawn to negotiate in three parallel sessions. To avoid the sterile slanging matches of the past, there would be no plenary sessions, only a final vote among the elected parties on the final agreement, some time next

bomb was a one-off gesture of frustration — stems from British claims that the Unionists will not seek further de lay by demanding "talks about talks" in an elected forum.

Despite the personal Commons initiative yesterday by the SDLP's Mr Hume — he urged an instant referendum on both sides of the Irish border to reject violence and endorse all-party talks - minis-

The Guardian has learned | mism — reinforced by IRA in- | ters and the Labour Opposi- | those discussions in which | tat British ministers are pri- | dication from Dublin that the | tion are convinced he is edg- | they are involved — all of | elections.

> There was even talk of fitting in Dublin's own formula for breaking the deadlock high-pressure, Bosnian-style "proximity talks" between the parties. "They could be followed very quickly by elec-tions." Dublin sources say. According to British minis terial sources, the new body would give the two govern-

ments effective vetos over

tion are convinced he is edging they are involved — all of ing towards accepting them in Britain case; all but the internal "strand" talks about Northern Ireland's internal settlement in Dublin's.

Britain's blueprint, which has been shown to Mr Hume and his Unionist counterpart, David Trimble, would be a test of the democratic man-date of the parties, but the size of negotiating delegations would not automatically reflect their electoral

Mr Major made plain, as Mr | night's bombing and are ex-Bruton did at the weekend, | pected to meet in London next Bruton did at the weekend. that he will not talk to Sinn Fein until the ceasefire is restored, though civil servants may talk to local Sinn Fein politicians.

Mr Major, pledging himself to press for elections, told MPs: "Others have ideas too, including the Irish govern-ment. Our minds are not closed. Nor, I know are

talked twice since Friday

He and Mr Bruton have

Last night Sinn Fein's Mar-tin McGuinness said: "It is going to be very, very difficult indeed" to get another cease-



On other pages

In Eilish McCabe's home. they don't have much time for the institutions of the crown. Yesterday, their front room was dark and tense as they sat in silence listening to John Major's speech. They were con-vinced it would decide the future of Northern Ireland. Maggie O'Kane, page 3

□ At the last, Mr Major ran away from his own logic. In-stead of assembling a critical mass of British politicians behind a process that posed no genuine threat to the Unionist constituency, he let the Unionists draw their line in the sand. Hugo Young, page 9

☐ In Mid-Ulster, where line, paramilitaries were not surprised by last Friday's turn of events, "The republican movement's political leaders have failed to educate their own followers about the need for peaceful. democratic methods." David Sharrock, page 3

☐ People in a democracy, Mr Major said, are not "pas sive spectators", and have a right to make their views plain. (This is, perhaps, not the time to raise the subject of railway privatisation.) Simon Hoggart, page 2

Blunders over maths testing

John Carvel Education Editor

OVERNMENT embarrassment at the failure of more than half the nation's 11-year-olds to reach the expected standard in maths was compounded yes-terday when it emerged that officials got the sums wrong by double counting tens of thousands of children who did not make the grade in their written tests.
According to Peter Coles,

chief education officer of Hampshire, the mistake could have distorted the figures by as much as 2 per cent -enough to tilt the balance to suggest there were more failures than successes. He blamed "stupid and ex-traordinary errors" on a sys-

tem for collating the results designed by John Patten, the former Education Secretary. who gave the work to the GCE examination boards because he did not trust the local au-thorities to produce honest

if teachers thought 11-yearolds might fail to reach the target level 4 in the maths them through a series of less | 11, when it had only 132.

what lower attainment level they had reached. Test results compiled by the examination boards were then added to task results compiled by the schools, thereby doublecounting the unfortunate children who did not make level 4 by either yardstick. "If the schools and examin-

ing boards had followed the correct procedures, there should not have been any double counting", said a spokeswoman for the curricu-

lum authority.
"We followed the system designed by the Department for Education and Employment. It was not failsafe and there was no way of knowing whether there was double counting", said George Turnbull, spokesman for the Associated Examining Board. The curriculum and examinations experts accepted yes-

terday that there were flaws in the 1995 results, announced earlier this month. Mr Coles said other local authorities were contacted through a network of council statisticions revealing a catalogue of bizarre errors. One Bradford school was marked as if it had 312 children aged

NHS set to fund surrogate birth

Chris Mihili Medical Corres

HE first birth to a surro gate mother funded by the NHS could follow discussions between a health authority and a test tube baby clinic over the help to be given to an infertile couple. Previous surrogacy arrangements — where a wom-an hears a child for an infer-tile couple — have been private. It is not yet known whether the health authority would restrict funding to in vitro fertilisation treatment, or if it would pay the expenses of the surrogate by a health authority that it would meet the cost of a surrogate pregancy, although detailed discussions were

continuing.

Mr Parsons declined to give details of the couple who wanted the baby or the prospective surrogate mother. He also refused to identify the health authority, although it is believed to be in the south

mother would normally include loss of earnings, travel costs and clothing. Most surrogate mothers receive be-tween £7,000 and £10,000.

The anouncement came as the British Medical Association issued revised guidance to doctors, saying they should help patients involved in surrogate pregnancies, as coun-selling about the possible pit-

of the country.

The treatment involves taking eggs and sperm from the would-be parents, mixing them in a laboratory and im-

John Parsons, head of the Assisted Conception Unit at King's College Hospital, south London, yesterday revealed that his clinic had been told the country of treatment for surrogate pre-gancies. Each case was de-cided by the hospitals ethics

committee after the couple and the surrogate mother had undergone psychological assesment and counselling. Tim Hedgley, chairman of Issue, the fertility pressure group, said last night: "I think it is very good news. It the health authority. The authority is paying to alleviate stress and suffering in an in-

fertile couple."

Oklahoma bomb lawyer wants British neo-Nazis to testify

lan Katz in New York

ALAWYER for Timothy McVeigh, the prime sus-pect in the Oklahoma City blast, has asked a judge to subpoena the rightwing Brit-ish historian, David Irving, and two British nec-Nazis who he alleges may have in-formation about the bombing. In a move seen by many observers as an effort to muddy the waters around the case

against his client, attorney Stephen Jones said he wanted to call Mr Irving along with John Tyndall, leader of the British National Party, and Charles Sargent, the reputed leader of a British neo-fascist group called C18.

Mr Jones said he did not believe the three had any involvement in the attack but claimed they had links to US extremists who he suspected conspiracy. "I'm not accusing

them of anything. I just want to find out what they know." Mr Irving vehemently de-nies any involvement in or prior knowledge of the Okla-homa bombing. Contacted in Key West yesterday, he told the Guardian he was "very shocked and embarrassed to be dragged into something as

Mr Irving, a Holocaust revi-

unnappetising as this."

ploded outside the Alfred P Murrah federal building killing 169 people on April 19, Mr Jones has promoted the theory that Mr McVeigh, aged 27, and his co-defendant. Terry Nichols, aged 40, may

have been part of a conspiracy of neo-Nazis aimed at avenging the death of Richard sionist who claimed in 1992 to | Snell, a white supremacist exof taking part in the bombing have discovered diaries of ecuted in Arkansas on the conspiracy. "I'm not accusing Joseph Goebbels in a Moscow day of the bombing.



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'l am not in the business of slamming doors, but the people need to know where Sinn Fein stand, whether they are a front for the IRA or a party committed to the ballot, not the bullet'

John Major





one of the best ways forward now is to let the people speak clearly. **Because** if they do, neither the IRA nor anybody else will be able to ianore them'

> John Hume yesterday

Hume urges all-Irish referendum

Commons

Blair backs PM and asks 'hard question' of how to regain peace momentum

Patrick Wintour, Chief Political Correspondent

OHN Hume, the SDLP leader and ceasefire, yesterday surprised MPs by erendum north and south of the Irish border to demonstrate the entire island's opposition to violence, so isolat-ing the IRA.

John Major told the Com-mons that British ministers will hold no further talks with Sinn Fein until the ceasefire is restored. Mr Major said he would study Mr

Hume's proposal.

Discussing his general approach following the breakdown of the ceasefire. Mr Major said: "I am not in the business of slamming doors. but the British and Irish peoples need to know where Sinn Fein stand. They must decide whether they are a front for the IRA or a demoted to the ballot and not the

Insisting the peace process



continue to believe they provide the most promising opening available".

It was not a delaying profor peace than himself. The people throughout

Republic had shown "their massive will for peace". Mr Hume called for a refer endum in the north and south by the end of the month, asking people to say if they totally disapproved of vio-



Speakers in debate . . . John Hume (left) and John Taylor

would go, he stuck to this pro- I them speak very clearly. Beposal for an elected body in which all the parties committed to the democratic process able to ignore them." Exjor's approach, Labour leader Tony Blair urged: "The bombsions from the bomb, but nei-

cess, he promised, adding that nobody had taken more risks ther should they be allowed to He said there had been much speculation about Northern Ireland and the

bomb as a one-off or part of a more prolonged campaign. "For them it may be a mat-ter of tactics. But for the vic-tims, it has been a matter of life and death, and there can be nothing but the most prolence and if they wanted all found contempt for those who parties to start dialogue. He said: "I think that one of the best ways forward now is such strategy, whatever it is."

Sinn Fein would accept exclusively peaceful methods in

was an alternative. But if elections went ahead, they should not be a return to Stor mont and should lead directly to substantive negotiations with decommissioning begin-ning in parallel, he said. The Ulster Unionist deputy

leader, John Taylor, said that the "inevitability" of another terrorist attack had been increasing because Sinn Fein had been "totally isolating it-

He called for elections and said he would only go to Dub

lin if greater security was provided Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist leader, claimed the vehicle that blew up in the docklands had been prepared

three weeks ago.
"How could any democratically elected leader in this House be asked to sit down and negotiate with people who would be doing that while they were talking

The Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown. claimed the attack was pre meditated, and that Sinn Fein, by failing to condemn the attack, effectively con-

regain the momentum for Going placidly peace without concessions to Decommissioning weapons remained the obvious way to establish with confidence that sively peaceful methods in the future, but this had been ruled out by them, said Mr



Simon Hoggart

*HE Prime Minister pulled out a white nervously, to polish his glasses. It was an endearingly nerdish gesture, particularly from the man who, according to Sinn Fein and its blame for the bomb as the men who planted it.

Luckily there are only a handful of them in the House of Commons and for the most part they decided that this was

a good day to keep quiet. Mr Major said, quietly but precisely, that the elections (we are told that the outrageous suggestion that the people of Northern Ireland should be allowed to vote for their own representatives wa

bombing) were still the best way to go ahead. People in a democracy, he said, are not "passive spectators", and have a right to make their views plain. (This is, perhaps, not the time to raise the subject of railway privatisation, but we can return to that later.)

the proximate cause of the

Mr Major's tone was finely judged. He was firm and means to proceed, yet his manner was open.

conciliatory, almost placid. We could even be grateful for the timing of the bomb; the three days interval produced a certain calmness, so unlike the House of Commons when has just been riled.

Mr Blair rose to reply. One is tempted to wonder why he should be so keen to have Mr Major's job when he sees what it involves. As always, he was careful to leave no hostages to

fortune. He pointed out that the Government had already stated that it had "no selfish interest" in Northern Ireland.

strategic interest", in case the IRA thinks the Empire is hanging on to fend off the marging on to tent to the
marauding threat from the
Canadian Navy or the Farce
Islands Marines.)
Tony "Von" Marlow
shouted: "What about the
UK?" Mr Marlow is from that

curious group which would want to hang onto Northern Ireland even if its population voted to be annexed by Rockall. But to people like Mr Marlow, if we can't have India, why not County

Tyrone?
Mr Major made the most important part of his statement in his reply. "I am not seeking today to erect barriers or to produce harsh words that will make it more difficult for those in Sinn. Fein to do what needs to be Then he added, I thought

movingly: "We are not at the end of the road for peace. If we are pushed back, we will start again. If we are pushed back again, we will start again. If we are pushed back a third time, we will start again."
(Normally he would keep

on: "If we are pushed back a 17th time. . .", but it was a measure of how he had gauged the mood that he knew exactly

when to stop.)
John Hume was called, and we sensed a fretful anxiety. Mr

Hume could destroy everything, Instead he adopted a diversionary tactic. a diversion from his own opposition to elections. There should be a referendum in which people were asked first whether they unequivocally disapproved of violence, and second whether they

supported all-party talks. Whether there should be a question three — should the all-party talks include people who find violence rather appealing — he did not say. But as a diversionary tactic it succeeded very well.

The Rev Ian Paisley complained that the bombers had stolen their vehicle tax disc from one of his constituents. We gravely took this news on board.

Tony Benn finally found a circuitous way to blame John Major: he had tossed the Mitchell report aside and contumely - or words to that

The Prime Minister managed to keep his cool. He threw John Hume's words back at Mr Benn: "Negotiations cannot take place with gups on the table, guns under the table, or guns outside the door." Mr Hume lowered his head balf a millimetre in

The Open University

Armed police patrols in anti-terrorist drive

The hunt

Bomb scares and increased security cause problems across country

Duncan Campbell and Alex Bellos

■HE Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police yes-terday warned Londoners that they would have to be prepared for armed police patrols on the capital's streets as a result of the IRA's Docklands bomb. Sir Paul Condon's warning

came as detectives investigating the bombs announced that they had had an excellent response to calls for information about the low-loader lorry in which the bomb had

Sir Paul yesterday said that Londoners must face the possibility of further bomb attacks. He asked for their cooperation with the increased security on the streets. This will include additional armed

You can help us by being millions of eyes and ears." hesaid. It was now necessary to had operated at the height of the bombing campaign. He asked those responsible for buildings or places of enter- IRA will do next.

Detectives are already examining security video footage for clues to the identity of the bombers. They say they are hopeful of information because there is a large quantity of good quality film available. The search at the bomb site was continuing yesterday and is not likely to be completed for a further two days. The reponse to calls for information about the lorry has been

Scepticism over one-off claim

excellent, according to the anti-terrorist branch.

Security sources said that

THEORIES that the IRA bomb attack on Canary Wharf may have been a "one off" designed to influence the political process were being treated with scepticism yesterday by the security forces, writes David

Sharrock, The Irish Times yesterday reported republican sources in Dublin as saying the IRA had told its members that the Canary Wharf bomb was a one-off.

However, given that no security agency was able to predict that a massive bomb was about to be deto-nated in London, it is clear that nobody is prepared to

tainment to take particular precautions and to retain all security video film.

suggestions that there were up to six IRA active service units on the mainland and that politicians might be the next target was highly

speculative. Throughout Britain, police forces were reinstituting se-curity measures which had been relaxed in the last 17 months and issuing warnings to the public. In London, the additional security and bomb scares brought traffic to a standstill in some areas.

Armed police patrols have also been introduced around the Channel Tunnel entrance in Folkestone, Kent. Meanwhile. as workers were returning to their of-fices in London's Docklands

vesterday, loss adjusters pre-dicted that the five buildings nearest the blast would have to be demolished. Police had still cordoned off a large section at South Quay containing many offices. Sev-eral firms told staff not to

come in for a week and many have already been forced to relocate their premises. Rob Turner, of the Building Group, said that most of its 160 workers were spending

yesterday moving into other premises on the Isle of Dogs. The Docklands Light Railway was not running beyond Canary Wharf station, although its managing director. Malcolm Hutchinson, said service may resume later in

John Gale, a loss adjuster,

said the cost of the bomb



Scene of devastation at the Guardian's Isle of Dogs print plant

Where it's not fit to print, whatever the news

ian's production editor, was yesterday allowed access to the newspaper's Isle of Dogs printing plant, which is close to the scene of last Friday's bombing and suffered severe damage

HE building is still stand-ing but the force of the blast brought down power cables as thick as a man's wrist and ducting you could have crawled along. Where the presses did not break their fall, the cables crashed could easily reach £150 50 feet to the floor. The

were doused with water by chines are still glowing but the sprinkler system and ex-posed to the elements by the equipment connected to them opening of the automatic is covered in water. Next

smoke vents.
Suspended ceilings were sucked down in offices and plant rooms, bringing with into printing plates can them lights and air-conditioning conduits. Now, soggy reels of newsprint, weighing a ton each even when dry, are swelling and bursting, threat-ening to topple the reels the clearing-up process start, above them into the river of but the damage and disrupwater and ink snaking across

presses, as tall as a house, telecommunications ma- presses.

door, the plate making lines, where the pages, sent by fac-simile machines, are turned

ing of ceiling-tile porridge.

The police have begun making the place safe enough to tion mean that only the vagu-In the wire room, the red lights of the battery-backed est of guesses can be made about when the paper could again be rolling off these

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'I found it hard when the British government said it wouldn't talk to the IRA until they handed in their guns. All I was saying was talk, talk, talk -any way you can to find peace'

> Eilish McCabe on past hopes



Eilish McCabe beside the memorial to her brother Aidan McAnespie, shot by a British soldier eight years ago on his way back from a Gaelic football match



'If he calls for a clampdown on security and insists on elections that will be it for another 30 years . . . War, now he's calling it a war in Northern Ireland that's a first'

Paul McCabe listening to Mr Major

Hanging on his every nuance

shattered peace Maggie O'Kane reports

beige-and-brown curtains were drawn tightly across to keep the afternoon sun off the television and Eilish McCabe sat with her hands on her chin. banging on to John Major's every at nightfall there was no sign word as he addressed the of movement in the high House of Commons vesterday afternoon.

This is Aughnacioy, the border country of south Ty-rone where the main road sweeps down through an

army garrison.
Before the peace the lorries on the road from London-derry to Dublin would not stop there; instead, they would negotiate the tricky bend in Moore Street, driving | the river.

After 18 months of ceasefire the army garrison is still silhouetted against the hills that run down by the Gaelic football pitch to the river Black-water that marks the 20-foot wide frontier between Northern Ireland and the Republic.
Driving into Northern Ire-

and yesterday morning the changes were already apparent. A single army helicopter hovered overhead, and the Union Jacks were fluttering again in a loyalist housing estate just over the howere. tate just over the border. But in the giant green corrugated iron garrison there was still no sign of life: Even

watchtowers that look over the river. Two hundred yards past the garrison to the right of the "Aidan McAnespie shot dead

by Crown forces McAnespie was 23 when he was shot on a February morning in 1988. He was coming back from a Gaelic-football match on the Republic side of

The private who killed him was charged with manslaugh-ter but said his finger had slipped on the trigger. The

case was dropped.

McAnespie's killing had a profound effect on the Roman Catholics of south Tyrone. The army became the enemy to be feared. There was all ways tension, constant harassment, whispered

In the home of the dead man's sister, Eilish McCabe, they don't have much time for the institutions of the British crown. So, yesterday their front room was dark and tense as they sat in silence for almost half-an-hour listening to John Major's speech.

Ellish and her husband Paul were convinced would decide the future of Northern Ireland. There were moments as they watched when it seemed as if they had forgotten to

breathe. Paul McCabe sat glumly on the sofa under the framed photograph of his sociology



calls for a clampdown on security and insists on elections that will be it for another 30 years," he said. After 22 years living with the green corrugated army garrison they have few expectations.

Eilish McCabe had heard

the news about the first IRA bomb for 18 months from Jon Snow on Channel 4 news. "I conviction that there were

kitchen and I heard him say | House of Commons strengthit. It took my breath away but it didn't surprise me."

Over the past five months

she has grown more and more frustrated with the lack of progress. "I found it hard when the British government went on and on about how they wouldn't talk to the IRA until they handed in their guns. All I was saying was talk, talk, talk — anyway you can to find peace. I didn't care what the preconditions

As Eilish and Paul watched Major's performance, their mood lifted rapidly. "He keeps talking about options and all options being on the table. There's a new tone in think I've ever heard before,"

said Paul McCabe. Every nuance in Major's voice was commented on every semantic twist noted. "War, now he's calling it a war in Northern Ireland that's a first."

As Tony Blair and Paddy

"They're all talking the

same way. Major's not even throwing out the Mitchell report. Last month he rubbished it — now his attitude is as different as night and day."
As Mr Major's statement

drew to a close, Eilish McCabe turned to her hus-band and said: "There's hope."
She says she is against vio-

lence: "If you've lost someone you love then you know what that kind of pain is like. I am opposed to violence but it sounds like they've been doing a lot of talking in Lon-don this weekend. 'li that bomb was in Augh

nacioy or Derry there wouldn't be this kind of panic, but you can see that it's really shook them in

London." Today the view from Aughnacloy is "credit where credit is due. It was a long time in coming but John Major is trying to keep the doors open for degree from the Open Univer-Snow on Channel 4 news. "I conviction that there were peace." Warm words indeed sity as John Major pro-was coming in from the new noises coming from the in Aughnacloy.

Call for end to visas for Sinn Fein

US view

Martin Walker in Washington on what the Ulster Unionist leader told Clinton

HE Ulster Unionist der. David Trim ble, yesterday challenged President Clin-ton to prove that he condemned the IRA bombing by putting the controls back on US visas and fundraising for Sinn Fein, but the presi-dent showed no sign of cutting ties with Gerry Adams.

President Clinton has told leading Irish-Americans that he plans to stay "actively en-gaged with Adams", and believes the Sinn Fein leader was honest in saying he was surprised by the end of the ceasefire. At the same time, the White House has assured the British government that "we cannot make the whole peace process hostage to a bunch of thugs in the IRA."

Mr Clinton sees one of his more prominent foreign policy achievements collapsed in

the rubble of the Isle of Dogs. He is buffeted by conflicting advice, from London and Dublin, from Irish Americans and yesterday from the Ulster Unionists, who barely even had to say "we told you so" as they trooped into the White House yesterday.

"Clearly, by resuming vio-lence, Sinn Fein-IRA have put themselves out of court," Mr Trimble said yesterday. "There can be no question of continuing a process that in-volves Sinn Fein-IRA while preserve the peace process. violence continues." Mr Trimble, in a hastily arranged meeting with Mr Clin-

urged the US to back John Major's proposal for early elections to a body which could begin all-party talks.
"Our view after Friday is
that it's even more important

to have elections, because you can't have the political pro-cess vetoed by terrorists," Mr There was no sign yester-day that the White House

concessions for Sinn Fein ders to visit the US and to raise funds. "The president has the op-

portunity to bring pressure to bear on nationalists in general and republicans in particular, and we will be looking at how that can be done." Mr Trimble said. The unionist delegation, in

Washington on a long-arranged visit, had questioned whether there was any assur-ance that funds raised by Sinn Fein in the US might have been used to support "an evidently long-prepared plan to resume the bombing". Mr Trimble, who had a

working lunch with the national security adviser, Tony Lake, at the White House yesterday, then saw President Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore. Mr Trimble also met former senator George Mitchell, chairman of claimed Mr Mitchell had agreed that "progress should continue towards elections". The Irish American lobby

in Congress have rallied to reassure Mr Clinton that this no time to abandon Mr Adams.
"It is very important that

lin and London governments all now stand closer to Gerry Gerry Adams needs all the help he can get to re-establish control," Republican conton yesterday afternoon, also gressman Pete King said.

Revenge strikes ruled out — for now

Loyalists

Paramilitary leader says ceasefire will be kept as groups await developments

David Sharrock

OYALISTS will cap-ture the moral high ground by not breachng their ceasefire in spite of the IRA, a key parasaid military Within hours of the Dock- of the IRA ceasefire.

Volunteer Force command structure had issued orders to its volunteers, the Mid-Ulster leader said. "The message was to do nothing, but await

levelopments."
The Combined Loyalist Military Command, the umbrella leadership group of the UVF. Ulster Freedom Fighters and Red Hand Commando, will meet tomorrow to assess the implications of the declaration by the IRA that its ceasefire has ended.

Sources close to the CLMC said that it should be taken as a positive sign that it had not rushed into calling a meeting and was prepared to give a breathing space to the parties and governments to formalise their responses to the collapse

prised by last Friday's turn of events, according to the senior member: "The republican movement's political leaders have failed to educate their own followers about the need for peaceful, democratic methods," he said.

"Rather than see their own movement torn asunder by internal divisions, they have gone back together, which means that they are being dictated to by their militant mi-nority. But I believe that by so doing they will ultimately end up eating themselves." In the event of another

bomb, he believed that the CLMC would be able to hold to its ceasefire. "It would be one of their subordinate with the Ulster Freedom senior loyalists, proper and correct to give the groups, such as the INLA, off Fighters, debated on televihanded over a gun.

In Mid-Ulster, where loyal governments a breathing is the leash in order to take out sion with a senior Sinn Fein lism is at its most hard-line, space ... But if the Governalitaties were not sure ment was seen to reward the "By taking that route they Both parties have severed" IRA in some way, by leaning on the Unionist people, or if the IRA was to continue to wage war, then a return to violence is inevitable."

The senior loyalist believed the Sinn Fein president, Gerry Adams, was committed to a non-violent path. "I have no love for Mr Adams but we are stuck with him," he said. In Belfast, David Ervine, leader of the Progressive Unionist Party, which has links with the UVF, said: "The IRA will be bound to be coming under pressure from some of its own members to get on with it, and as the pres-sure mounts they might let one of their subordinate would be seeking to share the blame for the return to violence, and I think that at that point, if it comes, we will lose

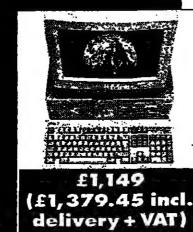
Mr Ervine added: "The Provos don't understand the resolve that is both British and Unionist which says: 'Under no circumstances can

we capitulate to this'. Last week, before the bombing. loyalists had made a number of significant steps. A PUP delegation met the Irish foreign minister, Dick Spring, in Dublin for talks, and last Thursday Gary McMichael, leader of the Uster Demo-cratic Party, which has links with the Ulster Freedom

those links for the time being. David Adams, UDP spokes-man said: "It's an experiment that won't be repeated for the foreseeable future, but people should remember that if the violence does come back that we were more than prepared to do our part through dia-logue to bring a permanent

Loyalist leaders thwarted a breach of the ceasefire by some Shankill Road membe last Friday, a few hours after the bombing. The men had tried to hijack a car with the apparent intention of carrying out an assassination. After local people raised senior loyalists, the men

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Association allows help for childless couples as 'last resort' ● 'Fortunate' woman tells of emotional reward and fulfilled ambition

BMA rethink over surrogate mothers

Çhris Mihill

URROGATE pregnan-cies are acceptable as a last resort for infer-tile couples when other fertility treatments have failed the British Medical Association said yester-

day in a change of policy.

The BMA said doctors should advise patients about surrogacy if appropriate, and infertile couples should feel they can discuss the subject with health professionals without fear of recrimination or judgment. Fleur Fisher, head of the

BMA ethics division, said: "Surrogacy is here to help in-fertile couples, and it is important that we recognise that this is an area of infertilty management that we need to learn about. All parties need the best quality of clinical and counselling care that we can make available to them."

However, the BMA said surrogacy contracts could not be offered in law and that

enforced in law, and that such arrangements were fraught with problems. But in most of cases it had looked at the outcome had been positive.
The BMA originally ad-

to do with surrogacy, al-though later it told doctors they could belp but that the two parties to the pregnancy should have as little contact as possible to lessen potential psychological problems.

The new advice, in a book for doctors and booklet for pa-tients, says there are benefits

Surrogacy is here to help infertile couples, and it is important we recognise that this is an area we need to learn about. All parties need the best quality of clinical and counsellina care we can

and would be parents sup-porting each other, and extended discussions between the parties can help prevent future problems arising. Dr Fisher said there was

provide'

anecdotal evidence that the number of surrogacy births was increasing, as society bevised doctors to have nothing came less judgmental, although no official figures were kept. The larger of the two voluntary agencies which set up surrogacy arrange-ments, COTS, estimates it has helped 150 pregnancies over the past four years, but other couples make their own Dr Fisher said that if DIY

surrogacy was agreed on

own eggs and sperm from the other woman's husband. there was often little medical missed out on counselling. Some women denied their pregnancy was surrogate, for fear that the child would be taken into care.

where the mother used her

In other cases, where IVF clinics were involved, there was formal psychological as-sessment and counselling. We want the same level of counselling and support as given by the IVF clinics to all people involved in surrogacy arrangements," she said.

The report backs the out-lawing of commercial surrogacy but says it is reasonable that the surrogate mother receives expenses of £7,000 to

The BMA says the voluntary agencies which set up surrogacy arrangements should be more closely moni-tored for the quality of advice they provided for couples, and that there needed to be more research into the effects of such births on the surro-gate mothers, the parents and the children.

adviser on ethics and the law. said there had been cases in which handicapped babies had been rejected by the would-be parents or when the surrogate mother had refused The whole procedure is fraught with problems from

Ann Somerville, the BMA

beginning to end."



Deborah Brown with sons Nicholas (left) and Jordan. 'The boys took my pregnancy in their stride. My eldest just said that it was a good thing to do' PHOTOGRAPH. RICHARD WINTLE

Host celebrates happy event of giving up baby

Angella Johnson

WO weeks ago Deborah Brown gave birth to a beautiful boy after "a near perfect preg-nancy." She then handed him to the childless couple for whom she had agreed to act as a surrogate mother.

"It was a very happy oc-casion. I was just the host surrogate. It was always their child. I just agreed to help them out by giving it a place to grow for nine and we shared the experimonths so there was not

It had taken four years of fertility treatment to folfill her ambition to help others. "I have wanted to do this for a long time, ever since Kim Cotton became the first surrogate mother, I thought it was such an emotionally rewarding

thing to do.
"I already had two boys
(now aged five and 10) and did not plan to have any more, but really enjoyed the process of being preg-nant. As I had a healthy hody and no intention of using it for that purpose any more, I thought what better thing to do than put it at the disposal of others less fortunate."

The IVF treatment involved three embryos being injected into her womb in May last year by Professor Ian Craft, at the London Fertility Centre in Harley Street. A professional couple, who had gone through 18 years of infertility treatment, had paid about "Oh £4,000. Ms Brown. 30, a again

single mother from Wilt-shire, met the couple for the first time a year ago. She was given drugs and to build up the lining of her womb for the pregnancy. Some 12 days after the transfer one of the embryos

had taken.
"I cannot begin to tell you how excited I was. At no time during the pregnancy did I waver in my feelings that this was not really my child. By then the and we shared the experi-ence as much as possible. She had already prepared

her own children and family for the birth. "I had told my eldest some time ago about this desire I had to help others. He just said that it was a good thing to do. He understood that the baby was not related, but might be part of our lives. The youngest was only told after I became pregnant but he also took it in his

Her mother was initially less understanding. "I don't think she was too comfortable with the idea at first, but now she is so proud of what I've done."

Ms Brown, who works part time in a supermarket, insisted that no money had been paid to her for having the baby.

"I don't really want to talk about money; it's a complex issue, because I don't think you can really pay someone to have a baby. But you can compensate them or pay expenses. "Oh yes. I would do it

Voman

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WAKE UP TO FRESHER BANKING.

Record executive quits over pop charts 'hype'

TOP record company executive has resigned from his position in the BPI. the industry body, after his label was implicated in the largest chart-rigging scandal for several years.

Andrew Cleary, managing director of Edel (UK) Records.

said he was stepping down as the BPI's public relations chairman, but he denied being aware of his company trying to promote a single by

panies alleged by the BPI to have "hyped" records by buyfrom shops to increase their chart positions.

cations have each been fined £30,000 by the industry, but igainst Love This Records as The Good Life by New Power Generation, which reached number 29 last August.

The fines, following a 12month investigation, are the first since 1991 when two labels were ordered to pay a total of £52,000, Since then it was thought the increasing computerisation of chart compilation had made them too difficult to rig. The current BPI investiga-

tion centres around poster company Rock Box Promotions, of north London, where spokesman said its evidence included receipts from record help from CIN, which com-piles the weekly charts.

CIN is fed information weekly from 3,500 record stores, and for the last decade has had increasingly sophisticated computer programmes to weed out any irregular

CIN chart director Catherine Pusey refused to say what happened in the current inci-dent, but the most obvious give-aways are many records being sold consecutively from the same outlet, or a record's

sales peaking mid-week. She added that she is often called by retailers who believe something dubious is going on, such as the same person coming in every week to buy a stack of the same rethat the BPI's policy of not allowing an appeal was unlarge. The last time a record £2,000. He said he would like to make a legal challenge to

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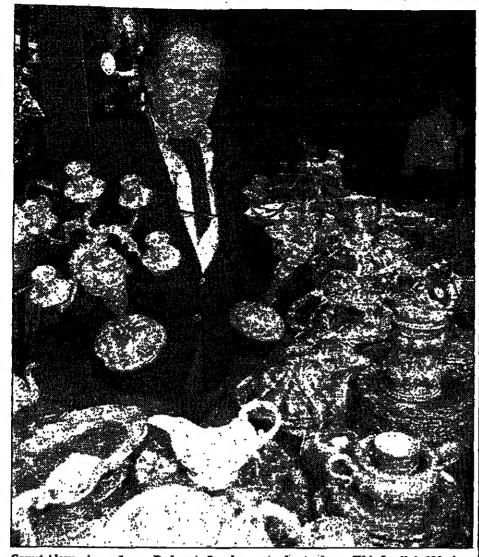
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Silver and china goes on sale 50 years after being hidden from Russians in German forest. Owen Bowcott reports



Count Alexander zu Lynar-Redern in London yesterday to show off his family's 120-piece silver dinner service recovered after 50 years

Count's map kept secret of family's buried treasure

UNDREDS of pieces of rare silver plate and Meissen china, buried more than 50 years ago in an east German forest to avoid advancing Russian troops, went on show in London and includes a rare 120-piece Odiet cibes service dating advancing Russian troops, went on show in London yesterday.

The precise location of the

recorded by Count Alexander zu Lynar-Redern on a hand-drawn map which he had kept since the final days of the second world war.

Then aged 16, the count was about to be drafted into the navy. Along with his widowed mother, Princess Victoria, their coachman, game keeper, and an estate worker, they dug a six-foot hole in the forest near the castle of Gorlsdorf, west of the River Oder. On April 20, 1945 — Hitler's birthday — they carried out 15 packing cases of china and

silver and covered them with earth. The count and the famtreasure remained hidden in what later became the German Democratic Republic. Last summer Count Alexan

can treasure hunter, Gregory Mills, to locate the site. Stone markers used to record the position were still in place, and with metal detectors the fortune was uncovered in less Stasi, than an hour. Yesterday the service

Odiot silver service dating from 1884, and Meissen china figures. The sale will be held in London and Geneva in May

"It was the first time I have been home since the war." Count zu Lynar-Redern said yesterday. "We could have yesterday, "We could have been shot by the Nazis for burying it against orders, and the Russians were getting

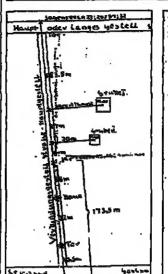
closer all the time.
"When we found it again, it was wonderful. Everything else had gone. Our castle was burned down in 1945 and we only managed to take a few personal things and 20 of our horses to set up a stud near Keil after the war."

The sale proceeds will be

brother, Ernst William, and his three sisters, Marile, Margaret and Elizabeth. No rela-tives of the coachman, estate worker or gamekeeper could be traced, the count said. by the Communists it became the private hunting ground of

General Mielke, head of the Stasi, the GDR's secret





Hartley Booth, the Conse

For the first time, it will

allow deductions from in-

mates' wages as contribu-tions towards their board

and lodging; towards sup-porting their dependants;

and towards belping victim

support measures. Miss Widdecombe said

that so far only about 1,000

vative MP for Finchley.



Digging up the treasure last year in the forest near Gorlsdorf, top; left, the count as he was in 1945 aged 16; and, right, the count's map of the treasure's location

Woman killed 'in drunken haze' Prisoners to pay toward their keep

Soldier accused of manslaughter from me, she defended herself was in a state of shock when I by raising her arms against further blows. "I did not kill the girl. I had I was so drunk, I was in no

Chris Drake in Lamaca

e quits

hype'

accused of killing a young Danish woman in Cyprus, portrayed himself to a court yesterday as an alcoholic, often too drunk for days on end to remember

Alan Ford, 27, of the Royal Greenjackets, told Larmaca assize court that his recollection of the night Louise Jen-sen, aged 23, of Hirtshals, died was badly marred. "Whatever happened is because I was the victim. Reading from his mem's to police at the time as very drunk. My thoughts, my own notes, he said: "After I flashbacks but added: "No actions, my behaviour — I hit the girl with the flat of the matter how hard I tried, I had no control over them be spade she was still alive. I could not and cannot remem-

Ford, from Sutton Coldfield. Birmingham, is one of three Royal Greenjackets accused of kidnapping, conspiring to rape and the manslaughter of Ms Jensen at a holiday resort in September, 1994. Her naked body was found battered be-yond recognition in a make-shift grave.

All three defendants elected to make statements from the dock without taking the cath which allows the accused to address the court without being cross-examined.

Ford insisted he did not kill

no intention of rape and nei-ther did I try." He added that he was too drunk to recall who took the spade from him and dealt the killer blows. Ford and his co-accused were stationed at the British

Bases. "Before the incident, I had a heavy reliance on alco-hol. It was not unusual for me to lose days or parts of days because of the amount of alco-hol I often consumed."

Another accused, Geoffrey Pernell, 24, said he too was very drunk the night the girl died. He described his state-

state to do anything but pace up and down by the car talk-

ing to myself."

The car he referred to was: yellow beach buggy owned and driven by the third defendant, Justin Fowler, 27, of Fal-mouth, Cornwall. It was used to kidnap Ms Jensen and take her into the countryside. His father was in court to

hear him say he stood by a second statement given to police in which he claimed the other soldiers were res-ponsible and that he had been

spade she was still alive. I could not and cannot remember both had had sex with her. annual conference in see a big extension fuelled successor to Derek Lewis, gotiators persuaded him to do still breathing. And after the sure of is that I did not do any the same, but he failed.

annual conference in see a big extension fuelled successor to Derek Lewis, gotiators persuaded by an expansion of the who resigned as director to give up. They a begislation, and ministers amount of work done for general last October amid pected to be charged.

Widdecombe seeks expansion of jail work for private companies

Alan Travis Home Affairs Editor

NMATES are to have part of the cost of their keep deducted from their prison wages under a scheme unveiled yesterday by the Home Office minister, Ann Widdecombe.

The move is part of a package to expand the amount of work done by inmates for private compa-nies and the number earn-

private companies. Private work undertaken by prisons already includes preparing ingredients for pizzas and machinery for a national chain of shoe are backing a private mem-ber's bill introduced by

regimes doubly difficult". But she was sure that the professionalism of senior managers "will enable you to find savings in costs without damaging the

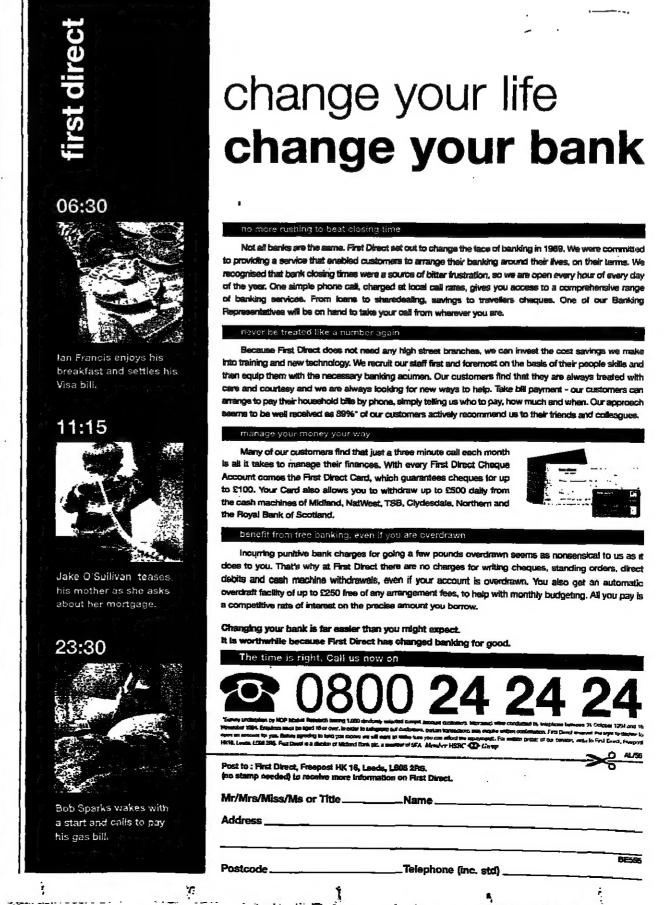
prisoners earned more than the basic prison "wage" of levels of service". However, she was not ing "enhanced wages" of the state for duties such as the prison service the kitchens. She hoped to any closer to finding a ended peacefully after ne-

repairers.
The cost-cutting programme in the service, had been bruised by recent which would see the loss of problems. But while the up to 3,000 jobs, would cost-reduction programme make the task of "main-taining full and active not mean chaos and riots as some commentators bad predicted.

 An official inquiry was set up yesterday after two inmates at the high secu-Cambridgeshire, held a prison officer hostage for

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PRICEWATCH



Juppé says euro's launch could be more flexible

France hints at postponing EMU

lan Traynor in Bonn

RANCE and Germany will not break loose and go it alone on a single currency even if other European Union unfit to launch it on schedule in three years time, the French prime minister, Alain Juppė, said yesterday. Thousands of angry

German steelworkers, anxious about their pensions and streets of Bonn in protest at government plans to curb early retirement pro-grammes, providing a first

But after talks in the German capital with Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Mr Juppé insisted that Paris and Bonn were determined to push shead with the terms and the Monetary Union (EMU) — planned for the beginning of

"We know what will hap-pen in 1999," Mr Juppe told journalists. "If some countries do not make the grade, the other dates are pro-vided for in the Maastricht treaty. France and Germany

Other countries will make the talks between the govern-1998-99 appointment, includ-ment, union leaders and ing some who criticise the EU but who are getting ready to board the train. In December, when France

was paralysed by the biggest wave of social unrest in decades. partly triggered by spending cuts and the tight budgeting required to meet the terms for the single cur-rency, Mr Juppe's survival in

office looked precarious.
Yesterday, unrest spread across the Rhine, as thousands of steelworkers demonstrated the steelworker strated against Mr Kohl's plans to cut public spending and pensions and welfare pay-ments, despite a jobless rate grammes, providing a many whiff of the kind of social unrest that jeopardised Mr Juppe's position in France two months ago.

The after talks in the light source of th

ganised yesterday's rally, warned of "a further catastro phe in employment policy should Bonn's plans become

Mr Zwickel said: "There's only one guilty party for al-most all the reasons for the economic, financial and social misery in this country — the Bonn government. Instead of seeking ways of combating employment problems, the government is again copping out and it has only one victim

ment, union leaders and rocketing number of people taking early retirement and the subsequent drain on pen-sions and welfare budgets.

Unions and management have found themselves united against the proposed government reforms.

The wave of unrest in

France and the growing anxiety in Germany at the erosion of living standards and job se curity highlight the chal-lenges facing Europe's two biggest economies if they are to be ready for EMU on time. Neither government is in a position to spend itself out of

nomic problems, because of the budgetary rigour demanded by EMU. The result is that dissident voices demanding either a relaxation of the EMU terms or a delay in the launch of the single currency are growing louder. Officially, however, Mr Kohl and Mr Juppe remain committed to sticking

the euro's launch. Mr Juppé insisted France would knock a percentage point off the budget deficit this year, and again next year, to meet EMU's criterion



Facelift . . . The 126-year-old Palais Garnier's £26 million renovation is set to re-establish the Paris Opera house after being sidelined by the new and bigger Bastille theatre since 1989

PHOTOGRAPH: GARETH WATKONS

Bishops think again on Aids

Alex Duval Smith in Paris

N A MARKED departure from the teachings of the Vatican, French Roman Catholic bishops yesterday recommended the use of con-doms to combat Aids.

The Council of French Bish-

ops' statement that the use of condoms is a "necessary" means to halt transmission of HIV challenges the Pope's view that only chastity can end the diseas

Scientists and liberal Christians welcomed the move, which comes after years of double-talk in France, the country with the highest number of HIV and Aids

cases in Europe.
Until yesterday, the furthest any French bishop had ventured was to say that condoms were the "lesser evil" between death and using "a bad method" to stay alive.

The bishops' report, entitled Aids: Society in Question, says: "Many competent doctors state that a condom of good quality is currently the only method of prevention. In this respect, it is necessary.

But the bishops stress

that prevention which de-pends on individual initiative is not sufficient. "Our society wishes to abolish unemploy-ment while maintaining the structures which create it. In the same way, it believes it can combat Aids with measures which are dependent on the individual, without changing the attitudes which encourage its transmission," writes Mgr Albert Rouet, head of the council's social

Marc Gentilini, chairman of the Catholic Committee of French Doctors, said: "Aids is at last being addressed. In the past, the closest we had got was a vague admission that prevention when the two other options, chastity and fidelity, were not possible."

The Pope has never explicitly condemned the use of conloms. But in 1993 he said in Kampala that chastity was "the only certain and virtu-

New rules for pursuit of war crimes suspects

Julian Borger in Zagreb

the United States archi-tect of the Bosnian peace treaty, yesterday anounced new rules governing the pursuit of war criminals in an effort to settle a dispute which threatens to disrupt the Dayton accord.

The rules represent a com-promise reached at talks Mr Holbrooke held with Bosnian and Serbian leaders on Sunday. They stipulate that the Rosnian government can apprehend only suspected was criminals who are on a list approved by the United Nations war crimes tribunal of Bosnian Serbs

It is hoped that the new "rules of the road" will prevent a repetition of the crisis signs yesterday that "busitriggered by the arrest, on liness is returning to normal suspicion of war crimes, of a Serb engineers had helped group of Bosnian Serb sol- I-For troops clear a minefield diers including two senior of-ficers, who had strayed on to But officials for the Organi-

fter the arrests, prompting in Vienna. Mr Holbrooke's return to the region at the weekend.

ment and I-For sources said esterday that two detained officers, General Djordje Djukic and Colonel Aleksa Krsmanovic, were being sent to The Hague. It was not clear whether they were to be indicted.

jevo, Lieutenant-Colonel

It is hoped the new rules will prevent a repeat of the crisis sparked by arrests

Mark Rayner, said there were

government-held territory in sation for Security and Co-opthe last three weeks.

The Bosnian Serbs broke off contacts with the government and the Nato-led peace implementation force (I-For)

The Bosnian Serbs had given notice they would boycott the next round of arms reduction talks scheduled to start today

An unconfirmed report on the Belgrade television In Sarajevo yesterday, the US envoy described the crisis a "bump in the road", but Serb military commander init was unclear whether it had dicted twice for war crimes been fully resolved.

The Bosnian government demanded the release of the released four of the detained detained Serb officers. Serbs over the weekend, but The report did not specify Pass Notes, G2 page 3

any threat accompanying the ultimatum, and Bosnian and 1-For officials said they had no knowledge of it. Li-Col Rayner said I-For would not respond to any communication from Gen Mladic.

The Hague tribunal has ap-proved the continued detening investigation of their role in the four-year war.

In an effort to fend off another threat to peace, Nato's secretary-general, Javier Solana, and the alliance's commander in Europe, General George Joulwan, yesterday visited Mostar, where Bos-nian Croats have rebelled against the reintegration of Croat and Muslim sectors.

Mr Holbrooke is due in the Croatian capital, Zagreb, today to press President Franjo Tudjman to use his influence to persuade the Bo nian Croats to accept Mostar's eventual reintegration. Explosive devices were thrown at five camps housing Serb refugees in Serbia's Ko-sovo province on Sunday evening, but there were no casualties, the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug reported. Up to 10,000 ethnic Serbs

from Croatia have been resettled in Kosovo after fleeing a Croatian army offensive. This has angered the ethnic Albanians who make up 90 per cent of Kosovo's population. They accuse Belgrade of trying to change Kosovo's demographic map. — Reuter.

French opera house preened for comeback

The Palais Gamier's restoration aims to establish the capital as the cultural heart of Europe, reports **Paul Webster** in Paris

FTER 18 months of silence, the Paris Opera house is about to burst back into life after a £20 million renovation. Known as the Palais Garnier after its 19th-century architect, the house reopens officially on March with a concert performance of Mozart's Don Giovanni, followed by a fully-staged version of his Cosi

fan tutte The return of lyric performances to the 126-year-old building will overturn a Socialist government deci-

Reopening the Palais
Garnier has taken on a will be used for grander pecial significance after dance and lyric Garnier has taken on a special significance after fire destroyed the Fenice opera house in Venice, the increasing concern about the safety of the Bolshoi theatre in Moscow, and a plan to close Covent Gar-

den for renovation.

The Paris management hopes to seize on the troubles elsewhere to establish the city as the dominant cultural centre. Its two big soint to separate ballet and opera houses, which are source, with the latter being jointly run. will have a lation of computer-precise reproduction."

restricted to the new Bastotal of 4,700 seats and a tille theatre, opened in joint potential of mounting at least 400 shows a year.

productions. Paris's modernisation programme will not finish until 2001, when about 280 million will have been spent. The Palais Garnier's public areas and its facade will also be restored to their original state. The Place de l'Opéra is to be turned into a pedestrian

area.

Naked truth reveals a Polish press hero

efforts to attack the powerful Catholic Church and Lech

Walesa.

A vulgar caricature led to charges of pornography. Mr Urban responded by publishing a nude photograph on the

front page of the next issue

and won the case.

controlled technology for stage machinery, air-condi-tioning and new safety tech-ceiling, which covered the ies, interior renovatio has concentrated on meticu lous respect for Charles Garnier's original plans. "There had been no resto

ration of the auditorium since 1953 and we con-stantly referred to Garnier's original book, Le Nouvel Opera, to ensure that details, down to the exact colour of the seating, were exactly as he wanted," said Jean-Loup Roubert, the theatre's architect. "We uncovered paintings and colours that had long been lost under dust as well as ensuring that the monumental safety

'We uncovered paintings and colours that had long been lost'

be taken down, will be disappointed. Philippe Douste-Blazy, France's culture minister, said this had been ruled out because the opera house attracted visitors from all over the world. "It has become part of the Opera tradition," be said.

Yeltsin sees red as election nears

David Hearst in Moscow

their candidacies for what most predict will be a bruis-

ing campaign. Mr Yeltsin is in 10th place in the opinion polls, after an avalanche of bad publicity over his handling of the con-

The latest setback to his image came in two television interviews by his former press officer. Vyschoolev press officer. Vyacheslav Kos-tikov. In an interview screened on Sunday, Mr Kos-tikov said of the president: "He does not have his own democratic convictions and never did. He is first of all a

man of power."
Mr Kostikov created such waves with his revelations about the president's advisers that he was yesterday forced to resign as Russla's ambassa-

dor to the Vatican.

He plunged the knife into the president's most powerful aide, his bodyguard General

But a number of govern-Alexander Korzhakov. Con-firming the image of Mr Korzhakov as the mad butler to take on board the Communist

kov said: "This influence has become unjustifiably great." Meanwhile, Mr Yeltsin's

Despite security chiefs' dec-David Hearst in Moscow

HE two main contestants for the Russian presidential election in June. Boris Yeltsin and Gennady Zyuganov, the leader of the Communist Party, will this week formally announce their candidacies for what

chenia, Lieutenant-General Vyacheslav Tikhomorov. The Russian news agency Tass, in an unsourced report over to the troops equipment and a large quantity of former food minister in prime minister P. V. Narasimha

Mr Zyuganov's position as president-in-waiting appears to be improving. The independent NTV television station said more than 1.4 million signatures had been collected for his nomination.

Any far-left challenge melted away when 20 leftwing groups voted on Sunday to back Mr Zyuganov.

The Communist leader him-self has said and done little

ment ministers are already making statements which rior minister, General Anatoly Kulikov, said he favoured "partial" nationalisation of

News in brief

down on fraud

Twenty senior Kenyan gov-ernment officers appeared in a magistrates court yesterday charged with conspiring to defraud the government, after an anti-corruption offensive that covered the ports, cus-toms and tax departments, Gideon Kimilu, the police

pended managing director of Kenya Ports Authority, and several department heads who worked under him. — Reuter.

Ex-minister held Indian federal police yester day detained Kalpnath Rai, a

Rao's cabinet, and charged him with sheltering six alleged members of an underworld gang. — Reuter. **Editor shot dead** Ferdinand Reyes, a human rights lawyer and editor of the newspaper Press Free-dom, was shot dead by two men yesterday after he opened his office in Dipolog

City, in the southern Philippines, police said. --- AP.

Shuttle scuttled Japan successfully launched a rocket carrying an experimental plane yesterday, but the shuttle was lost at sea on re-entry. — Reuter.

Naked lunch

Waiters from a brasserie in central Nice, angered by a smug customer who said he continued to reel under the chaos created by his latest edicts on Chechenia.

commercial banks and "mo-could not pay for a large nopolist companies", to pay for a large unch, stripped off his clothes on Sunday and threw him into the street.—AP.

......

Kenva cracks

in Warsaw reports on how Jerzy Urban (right) turned himself from a hated symbol during the days of prosecutor said.

They included the susmartial law into a champion for

ERZY URBAN is an unlikely hero. As the spokesman for the Communist leader, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, during martial law, he was one of the most hated symbols of that

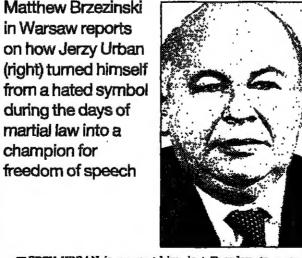
freedom of speech

repressive era. Few Poles will have forgotten his daily television appearances during the 1981-83 period, in which he would cheerfully boast that grain harvest quotas had been exceeded, while neglecting to mention that, on the same day, hundreds of protesters had been arrested and several lay crushed beneath tanks. But now Mr Urban, who runs a best-selling tabloid

And he appears to relish the Even his foes have rallied around him in the week since machine. a Warsaw court sentenced | This brush with the law

newspaper, is being hailed as

a champion of press freedom.



year suspended prison term for publishing secret govern-ment documents in Nie (Pol-He shrugged off the accompanying fine but gasped as the judge barred him from journalism for the duration of

his sentence.
"How can the court keep me from writing?" he fumed in an interview. "That's revoking my freedom of speech. In the West, even convicted mass murderers enjoy that basic right." He said the ruling smacked of the old

wittingly have had a hand in his own undoing. The court based its decision on a 1983 press law enacted while he was responsible for the Communist Party's propaganda

Ever since, women in vary-ing stages of undress have graced every issue. And the formula has paid off— enough to allow Mr Urban to enjoy a lifestyle that infuriates Poles impoverished by the transition to capitalism. For the Urbans, there are

his-and-her Jaguars, an art-filled mansion with indoor swimming pool, and a small army of bodyguards to keep ill-wishers at bay. There are infamous parties where a who's who of government officials and titans of in-dustry typically end the evening in the swimming pool filled with bobbing vodka bottles and scantily clad

women.
But behind the vulgarity and excess stands a shrewd man, who has his finger on the pulse of the nation. Nie is Poland's biggest selling publi-cation. It was the first to tackle previously taboo subjects, such as the Church's attempts to institutionalise

Catholic mores. Mr Urban, aged 62, sees the ruling against him as a dangerous precedent that could muzzle the democratic press. Poland's mainstream media

was not Mr Urban's first, and is unlikely to be his last. He first tangled with the legal system in 1991 shortly after court's decision.

Other news organisations which stretches the boundaries of ethics and taste in its revealing secret government of the source of the leaks, not the media."

He vowed to defy the ruling and said he would continue working as a journalist, even if it meant going to prison. "I want to provoke the au-

revealing secret government documents.

During the recent spy scandal that forced the resignation of the prime minister, Jozef Oleksy, amid allegations that he was a Russian mole, copies of counter-intelligence

reports were printed by sev-eral publications. eral publications.

"Secrets from the political police are leaking like through a sieve." Mr Urban said. "But if the government wants to punish someone, it be cover, there was an article alleging that the Polish Primate has an illegitimate daughter. On the back page, a consumer guide to Warsaw's brothels. "Secrets from the political police are leaking like through a sieve," Mr Urban said. "But if the government

"I want to provoke the authorities into abolishing the law." he said, adding half-jokingly: "If they come to arrest me, I'll escape to Moscow and ask for political asylum."

Meanwhile, it was business as usual as another instruction.

as usual as another issue of Nie hit the news-stands. On

Prostate Relief

nights to urinate... urgency and frequency... delay and dribbling... pain and discom- and the welcome relief that is fort you should know about a new book. Your Prostate: Get all the facts. Your Prostate: What Every Man Over 40 What Every Man Over 40 Needs Needs To Know Now!

Prostate - how it functions, address and book title with what can go wrong, how it can payment (cheque or Visa/Access best be treated, and how to protect yourself from Prostate problems. The book gives you nr. Colchester. Essex CO7 specific facts on the brand new treatments available for Prostate disorders – from new 825600 (quoting reference. drugs and medical treatments to natural remedies. The book to 14 days for delivery. You problems and how they were refund if not

If you suffer prostate prob-lems. Many men are putting lems such as: getting up up with troublesome Prostate symptoms because they are unaware of new treatments

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covers actual case historics of may return the book anytime men who suffered Prostate within three months for a full able to overcome their prob- satisfied

the state of the second of the

Bahrain (eneral s

Innocent left to rot in Nigeria's jails

close his ears to the wheezing, near-naked mass around him. Benedict Kehinde sometimes wondered if it would not have been better to be convicted.

He would still have been welcomed to Kirikiri prison, in Lagos, with a pummelling by the other inmates until his ribs cracked. And he would still have been forced to sleep with the "shit bucket" spilling on to him until a new pris-oner arrived as the virgin of the cell.

TH little else to be the all-powerful "cell boss" o but pick at who made life a kind of hell is lice and for others.

As it was, Mr Kehinde, like most Nigerian prisoners, spent seven years in Kirikiri and was never convicted of

Baba Gana Kingibe, the in-ternal affairs minister, made the unusual admission two weeks ago that there was something appallingly wrong with Nigeria's judicial and prison system. The wheels of justice turn so slowly that two-thirds of the inmates —

oner arrived as the virgin of the cell.

But: the Nigerian prison system treats those who have been sentenced marginally better than the masses waiting endlessly for a trial. Perhaps he would have risen to

try's jails "tombs without

Mr Kehinde, now aged 48 and begging on the streets of Lagos, admits that he was ille-gally hooking his shack home to overhead power cables when the police descended. He took it in his stride until he was accused not of stealing electricity but of sabotaging the power grid — an offence that carries up to life

time to investigate. A judge sent Mr Kehinde to Kirikiri prison, which is filled to capacity twice over.

"It was a big shock that first time I saw the cell. There was no come for me. The men. was no room for me. The men were like the dead. Even the beggars on the street have

The police said they needed

'I prayed every day to get out of there. I was beaten so many times, even now I cannot walk property'

tle money had not been taken

by the police.

The cell boss told me

gars are not so starving. I | coffers. Mr Kehinde thought thought if they put me in there I would never come out alive," he said. As he stood dumbfounded.

fist struck Mr Kehinde be-hind the ear. He staggered into other prisoners. It was the excuse they needed to "punish" him. He collapsed under the blows and kicks until he lay coughing blood on to the filthy cell floor.

The ritual beating over, new prisoners are hauled be-fore the "cell boss" and as-

cells sleep in shifts. The privi-leged have cardboard be-tween them and the cold con-crete floor. There is little natural light and ventilation. Some jails were built when Queen Victoria was Nigeria's

supreme ruler.
Food is the daily obsession.
The government budgets seven pence a day to feed each prisoner. Water is equally scarce, Osaze Lanre Ehonwa "The cell boss told me where my 'post' was — a tiny piece of floor where I had to stand and sleep right next to the shit bucket. At night it would get so full and spill on to me. In the morning I had to clean it out. After many months a new man arrived and I got a new post," he said.

Kirikiri was built to hold 704 immates. Most of the 1,880 prisoners crammed into its head of the CLO's prison in vestigations, estimates that dozens of prisoners die in Ni-gerian jails each week. "Most die from undernour-

ishment and disease. The cells are not washed. Prisoners don't have clothes. Disease is rampant. Their rags are infested. And they are weak because they are starv-

Day and night, the inmates scratch at their insect bites. sis, malaria and piles are routine. In 1993 there was an outbreak of cholera at Kirikiri. The authorities stopped releasing death statistics 10 years ago, but the CLO esti-mates 400 died. Medical care is virtually

non-existent. Even when the doctors are able to help, the doctors are able to neig, the CLO says the prison warders usually steal the prescribed drugs. "To call this anything other than murder is to collaborate in the pogrom being perpetrated in the prisons," the CLO said in a report.

Between battling hunger and sleep deprivation, Mr Kehinde also had to survive the routine violence for infractions of the cell boss's rules,

or from sadistic warders who theft and corruption Prison guards even hire out inmates as cheap labour on construction sites and fac-

tories. The warders pocket Mr Kehinde would have welcomed the chance to get out of his cell, but those on remand are considered more likely to try to escape.

"I prayed every day to get out of there. I was beaten so many times even now I can-not walk properly. I lost a lot of my teeth. Look at my legs. Look at the sores! That is how Kirikiri is still punishing

Mr Kehinde walked free in October, when a judge finally ruled that the police had no

Amnesty warns Arafat on abuses

lan Black Diplomatic Editor

MNESTY Interna-A tional has issued a sharp warning to the Palestinian president, Yasser Arafat, not to permit human rights abuses by his security forces — and urged countries which back the peace process with Is-rael to be more vigilant.

In an unusual move, Amnesty's secretary-general, Pierre Sane, told the Guardian yesterday — as Mr Arafat was being sworn in as president — that there could be no "special plead-ing" by the Palestinians because of their own suffering under the Israeli

occupation.
"Human rights abuses are being justified by the need to ensure the success of the peace process." Mr Sane said. "Public opinion is being manipulated in order to obtain tacit approval of violations and

Mr Sane's comments followed a meeting with Mr the peace process are not Araiat in Gaza last week in which the Palestinian leader failed to promise that the work of human rights groups would not be hindered. Mr Arafat said no one was "above the law," but refused to commit himself to end abuses. Amnesty is concerned because of arbitrary deten-tions of suspected Palestin-ian opponents of the peace process. Reports of torture in detention have been rife and six prisoners bave died in custody. State security courts have held trials in secret. Nine separate bodies, equally unaccountable, handle security

eback

Mr Arafat won elections three weeks ago and took his oath of office before the ncting head of the Palestine National Council, Salim al-Zaanoun, and chief justice, Qusai al-Abadleh. The ceremony took place at the headquarters of the Palestinian legislative council

Under his self-rule deal with Israel, Mr Arafat will head a Palestinian government during an interim period until both sides agree on the final status of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Talks are to begin in May but progress is likely to be delayed by Israel's general election.

Israel's prime minister, Shimon Peres, asked for the dissolution of parliament yesterday to allow for early elections on May 21. Mr Arafat told Mr Sane

last week that he was under pressure from both Israel and the United States to crack down on enemies of the peace process — mainly militant Islamists. But Amnesty's message is that he must now be treated like any other leader and accept responsibility for his government's actions. "We shouldn't take it for

granted that Palestine will be different from other Arab states when it comes to human rights protec-tion," Mr Sane said. "And living up to their interna-tional obligations in ensuring that human rights standards are maintained. We need to exercise the same degree of scrutiny as we do with other regimes. There can be no special pleading." Amnesty has also criticised Israel for human rights abuses and urged it to ban the use of torture, including the "physical pressure' currently

permitted. with Israeli soldiers in the West Bank yesterday during protests against Israeli restrictions on movement outside PLO-ruled towns,

witnesses said. Israel erected roadblocks around the towns of Ramallah and Qalqilya, barring Palestinians from leaving and Israelis from entering. An Israeli army spokes-woman said the closures were imposed "for security



Oath of office . . . Yasser Arafat is sworn in at the Palestinian legislative council in Gaza yesterday PHOTOGRAPH: NATHARNI

Bahrain faces general strike

HE Bahraini opposition has announced a gen-eral strike, starting in the next few days to coincide with the feast marking the end of Ramadan and the year's biggest shopping spree.
A call has gone out to all shopkeepers and schools to observe the strike, though op-position sources say they are not asking employees to join for fear they may lose their jobs. It is the first such national strike to be called in The strike call comes as

staff at Bahrain's Diplomat Hotel continue the clear-up after Sunday night's bomb explosion, which injured four people. This was the second bomb to hit a hotel frequented by foreigners; scores of others have targeted public places and shopping precincts. Bahraini businessmen had

been hoping for a consumer boom over the holiday to boost flagging sales and declining tourism. In normal circumstances, the end of Ramadan would have been marked by an influx of thirsty Arabs from the neighbouring 'dry" states of Saudi Arabia

"I think many Saudis will

Both Bahrain's opposition groups say they do not know who is behind the bombs. They deny the authorities' allegations of Iranian involve

ment in the terror campaign.
We think these bombs are being planted by the govern-ment intelligence agencies to prepare the people for long jail sentences being imposed on our leaders currently in detention," a spokesman for the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain said. London-based officials of

the group denied having any-thing to do with the explosion, though international news agencies in Bah-rain had earlier reported receiving calls shortly before the blast from a man identify. ing himself as a member of the group, who warned of the explosion and threatened more violence once Ramadan

Both the Islamic Front and the more moderate Bahrain Freedom Movement say they want to reopen talks with the government on restoring the constitution.

• The Gulf Co-operation Council yesterday expressed concern about unrest in Bahrain, the official WAM news agency reported. The out-going GCC secretary-general, Fahim bin Sultan al-Qassimi cancel after this second bomb," one hotelier said. "With luck the government and the opposition will start talking about peace soon."

Tanim on Sultan al-Qassmi, "We are called on Iran to "respect the sovereignty of all the states in the region and to refrain from interfering in the affairs of other countries".— Reuter. other countries".—Reuter. | It's culturally inappropriate."

'Cursed' tourists Zimbabwe election sows send souvenir rocks back to aboriginal site

Reuter in Sydney

TOURISTS who pocketed pieces of Australia's most famous rock have started sending them back to Uluru national park, complaining that the souve-nirs brought a curse on their lives, the park's man-ager said yesterday.

Julian Barry is encourag ing belief in the curse to end the souvenir-hunting at Uluru, formerly known as Ayers Rock. He said he had received a few packages a month for the past two years from people who felt their pieces of rock brought nothing but bad luck. He said officials in Uluru national park, in the out-back about 1,200 miles west

of Sydney, and the rock's aboriginal owners refer to them as "conscience rocks". He described one letter as typical of the dozens he had received from around the world. A New Zealand man wrote of his son's bad luck after taking pieces of the rock. He said his son's father-in-law had died and his son had broken his back in a motorcycle accident. Mr Barry, who does not believe in a curse, said: "We are jumping on the bandwagon by saying to people that it's an offence to take rocks as souvenirs.

cynicism among farmers

Andrew Meldrum in Harare

DISY pulling weeds from her maize field, Mentha Nyamatamba says this is the best rainy season Zim-babwe has had for years and she is looking forward to a bumper harvest.

"I know we have presidential elections," Mrs Nyamatamba said. "But I don't have time to think about them, I'm busy with my crops. These elections won't make much difference anyway."
Apathy has greeted President Robert Mugabe's cam-

paign to win re-election for another six years. Five weeks before the March 16 and 17 presidential polls, no ban-ners, posters or slogans can be seen in Zimbabwe's cities. In rural areas, where 70 per cent of the 11 million people live, there is little discussion about the presidential race.

"People are not interested in these elections," said a farmer, Shadreck Mushamba. "Many people would like change, but they know it is useless to expect anything from these elections. People are afraid to voice any criticism. The party and the Cen-tral Intelligence Organisation have active networks here and no one wants to be identified as opposition

tion with the Rhodesian leader, Ian Smith. Neither has yet held any rallies or pre- farms were allocated to cabisented cogent alternatives.

Margaret Dongo, the only politician who could have The presidential campaign

stirred up the presidential race, was disqualified from registering as a candidate because she does not meet the age requirement of 40. A forner nationalist guerrilla fighter, an electrifying speaker and scathing governcians to challenge Mr Mugabe's Zanu-PF party. Stand-ing as an independent, she

won the Harare South parliamentary seat last year. Mr Mugabe, aged 72 this month, has been in power since 1980 and shows no sign of wanting to retire. In recent years his rule has been marked by an obsession with security and secrecy, making

him virtually inaccessible. So far Mr Mugabe's speeches have attacked the International Monetary Fund and promised to acquire more white-owned land for redistribution to poor black farmers.
"He always speaks about

land when there are elections, but even peasant farmers can see that his promises are holsupporters."

Few Zimbabweans support the opposition candidates, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, aged redistribution. Two years ago

71, and the Rev Ndabaningi it designated for redistribu-Sithole, aged 76. Both are stained by their past associa-tion with the Rhodesian nents. Scandal erupted when it was discovered that the

The presidential campaign has focused attention on good sion. In the early 1980s the Mugabe government improved education, health and other social services. But in recent years spending on a wasteful defence force and ment critic, Mrs Dongo has bloated civil service has been one of the few politicorruption and nepotism have been uncovered, includ-ing interference by the president's nephew in the award-ing of an airport design and construction contract, and government blocking of an in-dependent cellular telephone network

The government's response to the scandals has only been to tighten controls on the

The main interest in these elections is how a one-party state, which controls 147 of the 150 parliamentary seats, can make itself look like a multi-party democracy.

"I am disappointed with Mugabe," Mr Mushamba said. "I thought with all his education and intellectual abilities that he would be different from other African

World news in brief

Rampaging troops kill 24 Tamils

SRI LANKAN troops went on the rampage in the east of the country over the weekend, killing at least 24 Tamil civilians and wounding at least 25 others, politicians and some of the

wounded said yesterday.
Two Tamil MPs, Sivasithamparam and Arunasalam Thangathurai, said at least 24 civilians — including women and children — were killed by soldiers on Sunday in Rumara-puram, eastern Trincomalee.

Military spokesmen said they had no information of any such attack, but army officials privately said the allegations were true. They said the troops had gone on the rampage after Tamil rebels had killed two soldiers earlier in the day.

Wounded civilians at Trincomalee hospital said they saw soldiers break open the doors and windows of houses and fire at

Earlier yesterday, police defused a 330lb truck bomb, which was also packed with ballbearings, in a temple compound on the northern outskirts of the capital. Colombo. The site is within a mile of the cricket stadium where a joint India-Pakistan team is due to play Sri Lanka today. — Reuder, Colombo.

Bangladesh poli setback

BANGLADESH'S ruling Nationalist Party yesterday faced a new threat to its plans to hold a general election — already boycotted by all the main opposition parties — after civil servants said they would not staff polling booths.

Senior civil servants, representing more than 1,000 public

employees, yesterday said they would defy an order to report as returning officers for Thursday's vote.

"There is no security," complained one bureaucrat. "Yesterday two of our colleagues were hurt in a bomb attack." Although the opposition has vowed to disrupt the polls, the bureaucratic boycott could be far more harmful. Radio and television presenters have said they will not report on the elec-

Rock refuses to budge

tion. — Suzanne Goldenberg, Dhaka.

RESCUE workers again failed yesterday to blast a giant boulder off a collapsed Japanese road tunnel where 20 people have been

trapped for more than two days. The second attempt to use dynamite to dislodge the slab weighing about 50,000 tonnes from the shattered roof of the tunnel, about 30 miles north-west of Sapporo on Hokkaido island, barely

The boulder crashed through the tunnel roof on Saturday morning, trapping 19 people in a bus and a motorist in a car.

When it fell, a 40-yard stretch of the tunnel's ceiling crashed down from just inside one of the tunnel entrances.

Since the accident there have been no signs of life from the vehicles and some rescue officials believe the victims died instantly, crushed under rock. — Reuter, Tokyo.

Italian motorway carnage

AT LEAST 11 people were killed and more than 100 injured in a pile-up on a fog-bound motorway in northern Italy yesterday.

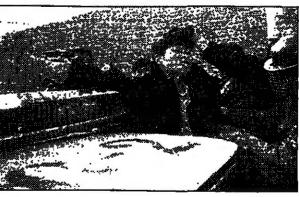
About 250 cars were involved in the crash between the cities of icenza and Verona.

Police said the first accident happened on the westbound lane. but then cars heading east slowed to view the carnage and caused

Police said they had not yet worked their way through all the

vehicles involved, and feared the death toll might rise. It was Italy's worst road accident since 1989, when 13 people died in a pile-up in the centre of the country. — Reuter, Rome.

Territorial disputes deepen



POLICE seize a student demonstrating outside Japan's embassy in Seoul, South Korea, against Japanese claims to two islands. Tokyo yesterday also faced a possible row with China over other islands. The disputes have been sparked by Japan's plans for a 200-mile economic zone around its shores. Taiwan, meanwhile, said it was forming a cabinet council to ease tensions with China. — Reuter, Tokyo and Taipei.

PHOTOGRAPH: AHN YOUNG-JOON



ice sculptures are familiar enough as elaborate decorations, but while we're used to frozen flights of swans and fanciful, glacial castles, this is chill-out minimalism.

*The*Guardian

Tuesday February 13 1996 Edition Number 46,474 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER Fax No. 0171-837 4530 E-mail: letters@guardian.co.uk

Mr Major changes tune

The Prime Minister discovers pragmatic virtues

lines the endless sensitivity of the exercise. Faced with the combination of a stalled peace process and a collapsed ceasefire, politicians of all parties have one of two choices; either they can fall back on dogmatic simplicities which are the guarantee of their own inadequacy, or they can try to do what they are supposed to do best and practice the art of the possible.

Yesterday the House of Commons took the only course open to it and grappled with possibilities once again. Considering the size of the bomb which had gone off less than three days earlier, yesterday's debate was a notably unvengeful occasion. John Major has rightly been criticised for his part in the sequence of events which has brought the peace process to its present low ebb, but he got one important thing right yesterday. He told Tony Blair that there can be no end to the search for a | the world as it is must be to develop this permanent Northern Ireland settle more flexible tone and to encourage a ment, whatever government holds more pragmatic approach, and to enpower in London. 'If we are pushed courage a culture of fresh openness and back," said Mr Major, "we will start dialogue in the search for peace. The again. If we are pushed back again, we most important thing that could happen will start again. If we are pushed back a in this context would be for Sinn Fein third time, we will start again." That and the IRA to resume their ceasefire was not always the attitude of British | immediately. No matter how arbitrary governments, but it is the right one and hypocritical such a move might now, for all that it suggests a subcon-scious recognition of failure on Mr it would still be much better to do it

Major's part. than the Prime Minister who last be placed under constructive and resoaddressed the Commons on Northern lute pressure from all sides until this Ireland three weeks ago after the publi- goal is achieved. Nobody can pretend cation of the Mitchell Report. January's | that trust and confidence can be easily Mr Major had felt confident enough to rebuilt after an event such as Friday's unilaterally prescribe narrow options bomb. Equally, nobody should pretend on the path to all-party talks. Sinn Fein | that there is any alternative to trying.

Peres's answer is to reverse the run-

ning order of events: the Israeli elec-

tions will now come (in late May) at the

earliest possible date: normal negotiat-

ing service can then be resumed on the

increasingly likely assumption that the

Advancing the date would not have

the aftermath of the assassination of

Yitzhak Rabin. Surveys at the end of

last week gave Mr Peres 52-53 per cent

against 35-36 per cent for the opposition

leader Binyamin Netanyahu. And the

projected party seat breakdown would

give Labour 48 per cent in the Knesset

against 35 per cent for the newly com-

bined strength of Likud and the far

right Tsomet party. But though sympa-

thy has played a part the scale of this

IF THERE was a simple solution to the | could either begin to decommission its Northern Ireland situation then it weapons or it could participate in an would have been thought of and acted on long ago. But there is no such thing today and there never has been, and last Friday's IRA bombing only underlined the authors are the authors and the continuous forms and process. We appear to could participate in an electoral process; one or the other, but nothing in between. February's Mr Major took a more permissive approach. Under questioning from Paddy Ashdown, the Prime Minister conceded that he is prepared to join in an examination of other options too, in other words the Mitchell Report's six principles and perhaps the Irish govern-ment's proposed proximity talks. He tried on several occasions to offer reassurances to what nationalists see as the obstructive aspects of January's election proposal. And in reply to the independent unionist MP Robert McCartney Mr Major said he was opposed to the erection of negotiating barriers and to talk of victory; there had to be compromises and open minds, he added.

This was not a new approach, but it was a better one. If only Mr Major had said such things on January 24 when Mitchell was published. Who knows how events might have evolved differently in that case? But that is now the land of might-have-been. The task in than not to do it. No progress can come This was a more pragmatic Mr Major | without such a move. Sinn Fein must

Peres's concessions. A good proportion

of the Israeli electorate clearly does not

believe him, and fears a return to a past

which promised nothing at all. Signifi-

cantly most Likud Knesset members

now accept the Oslo agreements as a

Mr Peres is also assisted to some

cent from the high of 10.2 per cent at the

last election. The issue now is more likely to hurt Likud, with concern that

its return to power could damage the

economy by upsetting the peace pro-

There is still a risk for Mr Peres that

his high ratings may wane over the

next three months, especially if there is

a new outbreak of terrorism. Mr Arafat

should be thinking of ways to help him:

the grassroots for further change.



IT IS fascinating to learn, from your report of Lord Brocker's conviction that, at Brocket Hall, 'Lady Caroline Lamb was served up naked in a soup tureen before Mel-bourne's cabinet". If so, the diners were probably at once heartbroken that there has been a resumption of vioviolently sick since, by the time her husband became Prime Minister, Lady Caro-line had been dead for six lence. There is an overwhelming cry for peace from the youth of Northern Ireland that is muffled by the rhetoric and the posturing of politi-Philip Jones. 109 Maycross Avenue, cians. I do not want to live in a violent society, nor do I want to leave my home. My Morden, Surrey SM4 4DF. future should not be condi-tional on political longevity or sectarian intransigence. I FEAR Alicia Metrett (Let-ters, February 8) will get lit-tle sense or comfort from tele-phoning British Gas complaint lines. Were she in ask the people of the United Kingdom to please keep an open mind. Peace is too frag-ile a flower to be smashed on the rocks of moral outrage.

James Kerr.

Derry, N Ireland.

Meadowbank Avenue,

THE reluctance of the Unionists to enter into all-party talks has been instru-

ESTQUE BELL 1996 - AFTER THE RIOTO D'IAN GENDSH

Edinburgh — and I expect it is the same elsewhere — she would be talking to an agency-hired clerk on a three-month contract at £3.75 per bour. Informed aid and concern can hardly be expected, especially as former employ-ees of British Gas may not be Mr Peres offers peace with risks taken on for such posts. Susanne Ferguson. 1A Nelson Street, Edinburgh EH3 6LF.

ANDREW Clements writes that David Alden's new production for ENO is the first new British production knot in the simplest way possible. offers peace. As one commentator in Everyone said that he would find it Maariv puts it, it is "Peace with farof Tristan in more than a decade. This is news to those of us who enjoyed Yannis Kokpeace process in the next few months as But peace." It is not at all clear what Mr the October elections approached. The Netanyahu offers. He already had a kos's production for Welsh National Opera in Spring 1993. But maybe Clements pace of talks with President Assad was severe problem in combating the belief already flagging and the next phase of | that sections of the Likud party (includthinks "British" is a synonym for London. deal with "permanent status" — would had tacitly condoned the extremism also present mounting problems for an which led to Mr Rabin's assassination.

ce with risk

Christopher Bertram. Department of Philosophy, University of Bristol.

ARK LAWSON says that "the Queen's English is alive and well" but what words which are so often inserted in spoken English today which have no meaning and shouldn't be there (From 'ere to split infin-ity, February 7)? The worst of-fenders are "sort of"; "you know" and "I mean". The constant repetition of these words ruin discourse, com-mentary and ordinary conversation. LSB Scott.

Easter Luscar, By Dunfermline, Fife KY12 9HS.

REGARDING the eccentric littles of spoken English, I was recently diagnosed as "acute psychotic" I have taken comfort from my un-shakeable belief that what the psychologist really said was: "A cute psychotic." Bill Brierley. Shilton Gardens,

RUSH to condemn is a work: it depends too much on the conditioning of the past.

Roy Ridgway. S A young person living in Northern Ireland, I itable because there is no way offer my profound apologies to everyone affected by the bomb explosion. I condemn the bombers and I am hold on power.

S A young person living the abyss of violence is inevitable because there is no way that the Conservatives are going to jeopardise their slim hold on power.

D Ellis. tle other than justify among ourselves the exclusion of

Exeter Road, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands.

YOUR allowance of space to all who wished to apportion blame for the explosion at the feet of any-one but those who planted it was astonishing (Comment & Leader Page, February 12). Has it not occurred to your writers that this bomb demonstrates completely the need for the assurances demanded by the Unionist Party?

First the request that the commitment to democratic means be permanent was seen as an unacceptable de-mand, so the British government conceded a working arrangement. The demand for decommissioning was seen as impossible to fulfill, so the mental in the break-down of the peace process. The fragile to ask that the guns were put away permanently. Then covernment, bolstered by these same Unionists, will hinder any future attempts to those who have neither lifted nor supported the use of arms throughout the provocations solve the vexed Northern Ire of 25 years had the temerity to land problem. And how can seek elections. This was unac-Sinn Fein be taken seriously ceptable to Sinn Fein so the if they do not represent the IRA plant a bomb. terrorists who have broken Tim McKane.

When transferred to the conduct of nations — let alone made a central plank of policy — it is downright dangerous.

All mourn the victims of the bombing. We can only pray that leaders can rise above the pettiness of politics and, with more mature judgment, make those concession

Apollo Close, Hornchurch, Essex RM12.

HE best hope is for the families of those most affected by the violence to set up an action group. The politicians have failed us. The onfrontational approach to

It diminishes our insecu-rity by signalling that we're okay and should hold no dia-logue with those who are not

Such posturing is fair mough when assumed by a pre-adolescent child searchmig for an identity within a group. It can be shrugged off as unfortunately immature within adult relationships.

When transferred to the commission's record to their warning John Major that to continue, after 17 months and the Mitchell Commission's record to the r warning John Major that to continue, after 17 months and the Mitchell Commission's record of their warning John Major that to continue, after 17 months and the Mitchell Commission's record of their warning John Major that to continue, after 17 months and the Mitchell Commission's record of their warning John Major that to continue, after 17 months and the Mitchell Commission's record of their warning John Major that to continue, after 17 months and the Mitchell Commission's record of their warning John Major that to continue, after 17 months and the Mitchell Commission's record of their warning John Major that the continue, after 18 months and the Mitchell Commission's record of the continue of th

and compromises which make adults adult and them, God willing, statesmen. Alan Coombe.

CONGRATULATIONS on getting the paper out in spite of Friday's appalling bombing but none for your editorial opinion that the UI-ster Unionists are vindicated by it (February 10). Or have I missed your earlier record of their remarks. forward preconditions for all-party talks would be virtually bound to destroy any last remains of the IRA's belief that they would ever be held? WB McBride.

Southfield Road Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol BS9.

HAVE no particular brief for the Ulster Unionists, but if the Protestants of Northern Ireland are colonists (which they certainly were 300 years ago) then so are the Boston and New York Irish, and all white Americans (Letters, February 12). So, no doubt, are we all if we trace our roots back far enough. Where does that leave us? Anne Stott.

Clarence Plac solving problems doesn't Gravesend, Kent DA12.



the ceasefire? The slide into | Willesden Park, Belfast.

These are grave accusations

TITH reference to the annum, and in 1995 received Dead Citizens' Charter: 67 complaints, of which 45 the National Association of were resolved from the initial Funderal Directors has telephone call. One mistake is pointed out that the media, funeral directors and all those involved in funeral service provision bear a moral responsibility to ensure that the public are not caused undue concern arising from "sensationalist" isolated incidents, however reprehensible these are (What a rotten way to go, January 31). The bereaved have enough to bear without additional and unnecessary fundamental Directors, anxiety. NAFD members are responsible for approxi-mately 360,000 funerals per

one too many, but some sense of proportion should be acknowledged, as well as the fact that funeral directors are invariably in the front line of the crushing weight of trauma, grief and even anger or guilt and thus become very handy scapegoat. Alison Maddaford.

Funeral Directors, 618 Warwick Road, Solthull West Midlands B91 IAA

Left behind in Auckland

Labour's current leaders of the New Zealand Labour Government proved Labour Cabinet, and almost Mark Seddon's basic point the British left can learn a lot quiesced in its programme. Labour now intends to leave from NZ Labour's mistakes (Letters, February 9). From 1984 to 1990, Labour turing in place, but promises to share the benefits more

implemented economic poli-cies more radical than Thatcherism, with much less finesse. Unemployment, pub-lic debt, inflation, welfare dependancyandsocial inequality grew, while wealthy individ-uals, companies and foreign investors prospered. The National government has con-tinued the same agenda, targeting the labour market and

welfare state. With the first proportional representation election due in late 1996, Labour is desperately rewriting its history.
The new party line blames
Roger Douglas for the excesses of Labour's term and
the conservative National government for the social and economic pain which workers, Maori and the poor have continued to bear.

But New Zealanders have We regret we cannot long memories. Most of acknowledge those not used.

fairly — a position similar to that of Tony Blair's New Labour.

But New Zealanders aren't convinced. For the past two years, Labour has vied with the old-labour style Alliance for second place in the polls, far behind the deeply unpopular National government. It is the tragedy of social democracy in New Zealand that voters don't trust Labour and don't see the Alliance as a credible force. The conservative right continues to lead

all participated or at least ac-

most of the decade's restruc

tive right continues to lead the polls, largely by default. (Dr.) Jane Kelsey. Law Faculty, Auckland University,

New Zealand

We may edit letters; shorter

ones are more likely to appear. We regret we cannot

A Country Diary

PLETTENBERG BAY: If you | that the early Portuguese travel 500 kilometres east-wards from Cape Town, leaving behind you the spectacu-lar heaches and peaks of the peninsula, and passing along the coastal plain, you have the coastal plain, you have the ocean on your right, while on your left stretch the rug-ged, brown Langeberg, Outen-iqus, and Tsitsikamma ranges that divide the plain from the plateau of the "Little Karoo" desert. And then you come to Plettenberg Bay. On the way, you have passed ostrich farms and flocks of dusty, brown sheep, some guarded by single ostriches. Flocks of storks fly overhead or feed in fields. A road sign warns of elephants crossing. though only one is thought to survive here, and she seldom emerges from thick forest. Much of the way is lined with Australian gum trees, some flowering. There are lagoons and freshwater lakes. There is thought of introducing a pair of hippo into one of the lakes to clear the thick growth of weeds. Plettenberg Bay lives up to the names

sea-venturers gave it, pausing on their way to seek riches in the Indies. They called it the Bay Beautiful (Formosa) or the Bay of Content. It survives as a natural paradise, despite a luxury hotel on the spot where the Norwegian whaling station once stood, and the prosperous development of holiday homes on the wooded terraces that slope down to the wide arc of beaches. Whales bask here peacefully nowadays at breeding time. On a quiet stretch of wetland (a viet), we watched a black and white fish eagle climbing and circling, preparing for the strike, when he takes a fish surke, when he takes a fish in his talons. Blackwinged Stilt probed the sedge. There was a flock of South African Shelduck, with brilliant orange bodies. At Robberg, one of the many dramatic promonantings. ontories, a rock-rabbit sunned itself. A mongoose, followed a few moments later by his more cautious mate, ventured across our path.

JOHN VALLINS

Mr Kasparov and the deep blues

shift suggests that a more thoughtful inescapably now they are linked

It is not at all clear what Binyamin Netanyahu offers instead

SHIMON PERES has cut the electoral ing his inheritance from Mr Rabin.

talks with Yasser Arafat — supposed to | ing some of his own close subordinates)

Israeli government preoccupied with Mr Netanyahu now says that he too will

its political future. So what to do? Mr make peace while rejecting all of Mr

Labour government will be returned to fact of life, and there is pressure from

been an option for Mr Peres if public opinion had not already shifted significantly in his direction. It is easy to

explain this as a "sympathy vote" in employment has fallen to just over 6 per

more difficult to push forward the reaching conc

The world's greatest living chess player is beaten by IBM

process is at work. Mr Peres, broaden- together as partners for peace.

WHEN Gary Kasparov beat IBM's chess | to explore avenues to which it has computer in 1989 he told the program- assigned low values. Deep Blue is now mers to "teach it to resign earlier". We within sight of passing the test laid won't hear that again because this week down by Alan Turing, the father of a hugely more powerful IBM Deep Blue artificial intelligence. He argued that if beat Kasparov in the opening game of a a concealed computer was so adept at challenge match coinciding with the answering questions that from its re-50th anniversary of the first electronic sponses alone you were unable to tell it computer. Kasparov won the second apart from a human, that machine game but the fact is the world's greatest | could be called "intelligent". chess player has been beaten for the progress of artificial intelligence.

shortcut a grand master takes — in- If we were Kasparov we would get on stinctively avoiding irrelevant moves the waiting list for a micro-chip im-a computer can do by being told not | plant pretty damned quickly.

Even if Kasparov does fight back it is first time in a full-length game by the only a matter of time before an unbeatdesiccated calculations of a sliver of able computer is devised. If the human silicon. This marks a milestone in the race wants to fight back it may have to play Deep Blue at its own game: Kasparov argues that though the lat- science. This week's meeting of the est machines can calculate billions of American Association for the Advancemoves, they lack imagination. What ment of Science was given an awesome Deep Blue is saying this week is that list of human parts that can be created "intuition" is programmable: merely a by "tissue engineers" to replace anyquestion of more megabytes. The sort of thing from a pancreas to blood vessels.

ducted is a strange one (Let-ters, February 10). Gross trading profits are already arrived at after the deduction of capital

Oil fires a new round of debate

costs in the form of deprecia-tion and depletion charges. It is difficult to see why oil companies in the North Sea should effectively be told they can in-vest however much they like, secure in the knowledge that the Government will reduce its tax-take accordingly. Not only does this seem to imply that only funds internally-generated from ongoing North Sea operations are available for inestment, but it is essentially a self-justifying position: lower tax-rates are allegedly needed to encourage capital expenditure which then excludes ade-

quate taxation. • Dr Hughes implies that the North Sea operators are cash-starved and for this reason unable to pay the nation ade-quately for the use of its tax breaks introduced merely natural resources. But this subsidised activities.

THE view apparently shared by Dr Harold Hughes and Professor A G Kemp that tax should be levied only on the residue of North Sea profits after capital expenditure is definancing) in 1993 of 250.6 million distributions after the statement of the tive cash-flow (before financing) in 1993 of 260.6 million didn't prevent it from launching a dawn raid on Lasmo pic the following year at a cash cost of around £160 million. Interestingly, it paid a mere £0.9 million in petroleum revenue tax in 1998.

 The argument that oil com-panies would have ceased exthe North Sea and gone else-where had it not been for the tax breaks created for them since 1983, is unconvincing. Where would they have gone? The petroleum taxation regimes being applied else where were hardly more inviting. The reality is that the North Sea was (and still is) a comfortable safe-haven: development costs were high but the geology was well understood, the infrastructure excellent and political stability abso lutely sound. It is difficult to resist the conclusion that the

 The figure of a 33 per cent tax rate on UK fields referred to all new fields post-1993. Ob-viously older fields pay more; but because of the various allowances, some oil compa-nies have been paying nothing, and some have actually been beneficiaries of net tax recovery. The simple fact is that, during the years 1991/2 to 1994/5, the share of aggregate gross trading profits paid in tax by companies operating in the UK North Sea ranged from 15.6 per cent (1993/4) to 19.9 per cent (1993/4)

· Certainly, the cross-field exploration and appraisal allow-ances were removed in the 1998 Budget but then any benefit to the taxpayer and public accounts was largely offset by the simultaneous abolition of petroleum revenue tax on new fields and its reduction on old fields. Dr Hughes and Professor Kemp must surely be well aware that the abolition of PRT was regarded with amazement, even within the world

oil industry. (Dr) Ian Rutledge. (Dr) Philip Wright. ergy Studies Programme University of Sheffield 11 Abercrombie Street, Chesterfield S41 7LW.

Diary

Matthew Norman

ROM Ireland, there comes evidence that God Almighty is mellowing. Since he was taken ill before Christmas, there has been speculation about the health of Tony O'Reilly the Heinz boss and media tycoon with a large stake in the independent.

Dr O'Reilly is widely ru-moured to have had either a heart attack or a stroke— and had he suffered either, the share price of the companies he controls would be in peril. Dr O'Reilly's PR people insist that it was nothing more than an ear infection, and this line has been confirmed by the man himself, in an interview he gave in Miami to his own Irish Independent. It was, he insists, "flu complicated by an inner-ear infection," - a combination he describes as "probably a signal from the Almighty that it is time to review the

You see what I mean about God mellowing. In the old days, divine warnings to slow down were invariably cardio-vascular, now they are aural. No der no one believes in

BITTER DISPUTE has broken out in America, the Jewish Chronicle reports, over the publication of a brochure. Although printed 18 months ago, it was only dis-seminated last week at a fund-raising dinner for the Bar-Ilan University.

anger

ackland

The row surrounds the identity of a young man pictured 12 times hunched over his books in the manner of "a model student". He is Yigal Amir, the assassin of Yitzhak Rabin.

S REVEALED here last week, my friend Mandy Mandelson is now the head of Millbank, Labour's campaign HQ, and there is, it seems, a great deal of work to be done. One bright young man rang Brent Council's press office last week, after the News of the World ran a story about "barmy Brent blowing millions on potty

projects". Labour wanted details, he said officiously, so it could defend itself if these projects are raised in future. "I couldn't stop laughing." says the press officer for the Tory-led council. "When I told him. he just said 'Oh shit', and

ONGRATULATIONS to those of you who potted the mistake so cunningly dropped into Friday's Diary. The location of the riots pictured above Norman Tebbit's splendid Sun column was. of course. France, as the paper said, and not Austria. All the clues were there, so only a complete fool could

have been confused. This is the latest in a series of deliberate topological errors that will eventually, we hope, form lucrative and hilarious Christmas stocking filler. Keep your eyes peeled for

HE HOME OFFICE bandbook for security officers on how to cope with bombs has become sadly topical, and my cye is caught by Appendix E — "actions to be taken on receipt of a bomb threat" The list of questions to ask if a terrorist rings you is exhaustive, and if some appear to rely heavily on mutual trust, they are excellent for all that. Number six is "Did you place the bomb?", number eight is "What is your name?" and number nine. my own favourite, is "What is your address?"

OLLOWING the Partick Thistle player who was sent off three times during a game in which he played no part. there is yet more news of eccentricity in Scottish football.

Rangers fan Eddie Cope-land has been convicted for an assault that ensued when he took offence at the when he took offence at the singing of a Celtic sup-porter on the top deck of a bus. In a bid to silence the rival fan. Mr Copeland threw his dog at him. According to the prosecu-tor, he missed and "the dog hit a window". The animal was unharmed, while Mr Copeland also got off lightly with a year's probation.



A Major mistake and chance lost for ever

Commentary Hugo

Young

HERE is not and never was a chance of the IRA's capacity for violence disappearing into history. Too much Semtex and too many guns are piled in the back roads of Cork and Armagh and, no doubt the Home Counties. This would have continued to be the case. whatever terms of "de-com-missioning" had been agreed and whatever undying prom-ises had preceded the all-party talks. Violence was, is and al-ways will be a potential condition of existence in and con-cerning Ireland, whether or not any given batch of leaders

has agreed to end it.
In these circumstances, the British demand on de-commis sioning and renunciation was stantive. If it had been satisstantive. If it had been satis-fled, that wouldn't have ing its connection was contin-served, a way of further ical edifice Mr Major con-years.

about not negotiating "when one party has a gun outside the door" may have sounded reasonable but posed, in fact, an unreal hypothesis. The purpose was symbolic: to it stood the unequivocal assermake the IRA eat dirt. That is a diet the IRA deserves to be defended. It proposed a new have stuffed down its throat, but it had almost nothing to do with effective peace-mak-alliance with the Dublin gov-

was a way of belatedly recom-pensing the people most put out by both declaration and framework document, the

Ulster Unionists. However, the demand was inconsistent with the strategy Major had already adopted. This was, bravely and irregu-larly, to override the Unionist veto on political progress. Major's text was that Britain no longer entertained a "self-ish" interest in Northern Ire-land. Deciding to devote himself to a new way of peace, he was prepared to shatter icons. He liberated himself from the past, and sought to bypass old entanglements. Ulster, he made plain, no longer had the same eternal place as Corn-

removed the threat of vio- | gent, and he would not strive to keep it alive against any majority inclination that dis-closed itself in the future. This was a remarkable shift.

It was not, however, a betrayal of the Ulster majority. Behind do with effective peace-mak-ing. Unmentioned in the Downing Street Declaration, it acknowledging that, if the will of the people changed, it might not last for ever. The logic of this was that London would talk to Sinn Fein even though the IRA threat could plainly not be definitively written out of the script.
The point of the strategy

was to create a new reality that might lead to a political settlement. It could never ordain that the threat of violence was wiped off the agenda, but it could make the cost of violence, to the IRA, ever more unsustainable. If all-party talks began, in paral-lel with rather than preceded by de-commissioning, they would be another step for-ward, a proof that the momen-

might, it is true, have been a later bomb somewhere else. But if the logic of the Major strategy had been pursued, both to protect Unionist rights and recognise Nationalist aspirations, it would have ended by marginalising the IRA. So it is tragic that the logic was suspended. The South

Quay bomb was an IRA obscenity. Nobody else takes a scintilla of the blame. By detonating it, moreover, the IRA has eliminated the chance of Major resuming the line he was pursuing. His own party and his own instincts, quite separate from the Unionists liamentary position, will now combine against permitting the kind of slow, slinky time to be constructively engaged in. For now that this appalling act of violence has been carried out, it is hard to see how any democratic politi-cian could fail to demand from Sinn Fein, before resuming political dialogue, a more rigorous renunciation than they've ever made up to now. This must mean that the strategy has been destroyed, along with Gerry Adams, in whom lay the best hope of

If my analysis is correct, says something grave about the British political process. If

makine it work.

duo. It is a great tragedy that they did not occur. If they had, there would have been no South Quay bomb. There the entire negotiating processible it is the transport of the entire negotiating processible it is the transport. dure, and almost the entire House of Commons.

The House of Commons is important. It has been a place of reliable consensus from the beginning to the end of the peace process. But we begin to see the weaknesses of this. There was a huge majority for the process, and thus for the adventurous modifications it made on time-honoured British attitudes to Ulster. It is hard to believe, given the sym-bolic nature of the required de-commissioning, that the majority, given a free hand, would have allowed that to stop the process dead. If the Government had found another way of dealing with it, Mr Major would have secured the certain agreement of most manoeuvres he seemed at one MPs. But at the last, he ran away from his own logic. In-stead of assembling a critical mass of British politicians behind a process that posed no genuine threat to the Unionist constituency, he let the Unionists draw their line in the

We know one reason why this happened. The Tories process are slender. It seems their position. Employing a vast majority for their lrish policy, they were most likely, long though it will be denied, that Mr Major's strategy has been decreased. ities. But, over Northern Ireland, they had started something brilliant, and sustained it, on behalf of the people, against many malignities. Its enemies were denied the de-commissioning demand their opportunity. But now was, in the real world, a that they have seized it, the moment may not recur for

pany sacked them too.

The employers' behaviour was typical. Boosted by high unemployment and the Thatcher/Major revival of the 19th

set up regular picket lines and started a vigorous cam-paign to defend their jobs. slashed, yet the dockers' wives have enthusiastically slowly and painstakingly In the House of Commons yesterday everyone spoke angrily of their contempt for docker for 28 years, chairs an those responsible for the bomb. But the atmosphere was also one of sadness. In Northern Ireland that is palus are past our sell-by date. she tells me, "so we thought we'd have a name like pable - especially among young people. Their expres-sions of fear and disappointment tell us that we cannot slide back into the old ways. Labour will work to belt

pick up the pieces. I am visiting Dublin tomorrow to talk with the government there about how the momentum can be re-established. We all has been its internationalism. have to redouble our efforts Merseyside dockers have travelled all over the world to in a renewed spirit of cooperation to encourage agreedrum up support. Two ships ment and to get the peace DV GOCKERS abroad, and many more which have been loaded by Mersey Docks newly-recruited scab workforce have been boycotted in for-

> attend. The directors of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company had planned to shuffle off the awkward dispute before an-

At last, a break in the storm against unions



Paul Foot

T LAST. from Liverpool, comes a blast of industrial defiance. Mersey dockers have been on strike since the end of September. An agency which employed 60 younger dockers sacked one of them for refusing to work overtime because his wife was coming home from hospital with a new baby. The young man's mates protested, and they too were sacked. A picket line was thrown up outside the docks. When the 500 dockers came to work the next day they refused to cross it. The Mer-sey Docks and Harbour Com-

century combination laws, employers treat workers and unions with contempt. Terrified for their assets, union leaders shrink from action to protect their members. Workplace bullying follows sack-ings in an endless cycle of exploitation. Although the dockers union, the T&GWU, rafused official backing, they Household incomes have been joined the picket lines. Doreen McNally, whose hus-band has been a Mersey organisation called Women on the Waterfront. "Most of WOW!". All three elected councils in and around the city back the dockers. The Searchers have given a free concert, and daily donations have been fantastic. As usual, the people who have the least give the most. The most in-spiring feature of this dispute

bound for Liverpool have al-ready been turned away after strident language was a clear eign ports. On Tuesday next week the strikers host an in-ternational conference of fellow dockworkers. Delegates from 47 countries are due to

nouncing their profits next week. Like all employers

nowadays, they assumed that workers are easily bought. They offered golden hand-shakes of £25.000 if the dockers would leave their jobs. The result of the ballot was announced last Friday. For. 50; against, 271. This was a terrible shock for the employers. The dockers meant what they said! Their only demand is to be reinstated in the jobs from which they were so shamefully dismissed. Mer-sey Docks and Harbour Company's share price dropped 34p and £30m was wiped off its market value. The dockers its market value. The dockers are jubilant and are planning a campaign to blockade the entire port. I find all this exhilarating, not just because offensive employers have been stopped in their tracks but because of the transformation in the lives of the mation in the lives of the dockers and their families. When Doreen McNally spoke at the first city rally for the dockers, she said that every-one involved had discovered a new sense of purpose and dignity. This is all of profound interest. I suggest, to every-one interested in how people live and work. Yet it is avoided by almost all the media. When working people are passive, they are patron-ised and insulted. When they are active, they are ignored.

T'S usually a pleasure to see Tory ministers humiliated in the courts, but beware the notion that judges are always preferable to elected politicians. They come almost exclusively from upper class backgrounds, and their prejudices often show. One man who discovered this was David Bookbinder, for-mer leader of Derbyshire County Council. In 1989, after a series of rabid attacks on him and his council in the Murdoch-owned Sunday Times, the ruling Labour group in Derbyshire decided to switch advertising for teachers' posts from the Murdoch-owned Times Educational Supplement to The Guardian.

You might think that such a decision about council money was a matter for elected cour cillors, but no. Murdoch's newspapers took the case to Lord Justice Watkins worked himself up into a frenzy of rage against Bookbinder. Though there was no legal precedent, the switching of the advertisements was held nvitation to the Distric Auditor to surcharge Bookbinder and the other leading councillors. Now nearly six years later comes the District Auditor's report which. though critical of the council finds no "wilful misconduct" by anyone and no case for a surcharge. The costs to Derbyshire ratepayers for this clash between elected council-lors and unelected judiciary are as follows: for switching the ads. £6,500; for the court case, £123,500; plus of course the unknown costs of the long auditor's investigation.

We mustn't be panicked by the IRA bomb into ending dialogue, argues Mo Mowlam

Talk peace back to life

the IRA ceasefire ended with a violence that shocked us all. Perhaps people unfamiliar with the twists and turns of the peace process who had come to as sume that peace alone would be enough in Northern Ireland, will be more shocked than most. Those who have followed closely will know the process has been fragile for months. Despite the progress that has been made, many of the difficult issues have yet to be properly addressed. The first of those has been

how to establish the necessary confidence to bring the parties to the negotiating table. After Friday, this will be an even greater task. The question now is: how can we The biggest push has to those are the route of an electome from the British and Irish governments working We know this is a contentious

steps in the peace process so far — the Downing Street Decwork Document — have come from a twin approach.
As part of Labour's bi-parti-

san approach we will do all we can to help both governments to move forward beyond this appalling setback. We cannot just go back three days and pretend that nothing has happened. But neither can we hang our heads in defeat. Sinn Fein must commit themselves to a genuine ceasefire. And Sena-tor Mitchell's six principles to build confidence should now clearly be accepted by Sinn

If such assurances are received from Sinn Fein then the options to achieve all-

FTER 527 days, | together. The most successful | option. We have stressed that | search for peace in dialogue the concerns of the nationalist community — who fear a jority rule — must be addressed and overcome. Other options too have been

put on the table, such as, the report of Senator Mitchell or the Government's contention that a start be made to the decommissioning of paramili-tary weapons. That was ruled out in the senator's report on the basis that the paramili-tary groups would not do it. John Hume spoke yesterday of his idea for a referendum. What we have emphasised is that no option can proceed without the broad agreement of all parties

Achieving that agree was the original remit of the twin-track talks process. That focus of the two governments and we welcome their comwith those parties in Northern Ireland who are commitcratic methods.

Friday's bomb means that unless and until Sinn Fein succeed in re-establishing the ceasefire, they will not be brought into this process.

Over this weekend I spoke to many people who feared that the peace process had been set back two years. It is clear from the two govern-ments that they are determined not to let that happen and to build on the progress made so far. But it is equally clear that things cannot sim ply revert to how they were before Friday. Security will be stepped up in Britain and in Northern Ireland. The IRA are now a live threat again. peace process, that changes perceptions and destroys con-

process back on the rails. Mo Mowlam is shadow



Buying his way to power: presidential hopeful Steve Forbes

Last night's Iowa Republican poll was dominated by calls for a flat tax. But its appeal goes far beyond economics, writes **Jonathan Freedland**

Powerfully simple

words to transform the US election of 1996 from a big yawn into a gripping political cliffhanger. Taken alone, each of them is as dull as the experts said this year's presidential race would be. But together, as last night's result in Iowa proved, they have turned the contest into

The words in question are flat tax, and they have propelled a previously-unknown multi-millionaire publishing within confi heir into the first rank of can culture.

T HAS taken just two | Republicans seeking the nomination to challenge Bill Clinton in November. Armed with that single idea, and bottomless pockets. Malcolm "Steve Forbes has reshaped the Republican race - putting himself neck-and-neck with previous frontrunner Bob Dole in next week's crucial contest in New Hampshire.
But Forbes and his flat tax have done something much

more profound, too: they have

struck a vein that runs deep

within contemporary Ameri-

The candidate promotes his big idea in 30-second ads by holding up the existing US tax-code, a document so packed with arcane rules and exceptions that it's thicker than a telephone book. He tears the thing into shreds before hrandishing a single sheet of paper — the tax form according to President

His plan is to sweep away the whole, progressive edifice of different rates for different taxpayers and replace it with a single rate, one size fits all Everyone pays 17 per cent, supermarkets that stock whether they're a publishing simple, light items in no-nontycoon or his chauffeur. Forbes's Republican rivals have wasted no time flattening the flat tax. One has

branded it "truly nutty", claiming it will bring in so much less revenue, the gov ernment will run out of money. Populist firebreather Pat Buchanan targets the flat tax's exemption of all income derived from interest, stocks derived from interest, stocks and inheritance — meaning that Forbes would pay no tax, while his chauffeur would pay plenty. Forbes defends the disparity by noting that businesses have already paid corporate tax and shouldn't be taxed twice. Buchanan says it sounds like something says it sounds like something "dreamed up by the boys at the yacht basin."

And yet these arguments niss the essential point about the flat tax. For the core of its appeal is not economics. appeal is not economics.
"It's simplicity," says Mary
Day, an advertising saleswoman in Des Moines, Iowa
who'd heard Forbes address a group of business people. "I like the fact that it would take a quick amount of time to fill in, and I could make out my own tax without going to an

accountant," she says.

This is why Forbes gets a cheer when he says tax returns in a Forbes adminis-tration will fit on a postcard. Americans hate their current system not because it's particularly unfair, but because it's bafflingly complex. The sheer power of simplicity is what Forbes's critics have underestimated. People understand his idea, so they like it. The flat tax is not the first

example. The hit notion in jurisprudence in 1994 was Three Strikes and You're Out - a proposal since exported to Britain. As a matter of legal procedure. Three Strikes has proved to be a disaster involving in two unrelated cases, the lifetime in-carceration of one man for stealing a slice of pizza and another for swiping two cookies. But the slogan gathered force — and was eventually co-opted by the president - chiefly because it was in

stantly intelligible.

This is partly the politics of a soundbite culture, in which ideas score if they are redu-cible to a grabby headline. But, in America at least, it is also indicative of a deeper shift. For the US is in thrall to a new cult of simplicity, in which the very word has become a synonym for virtue.

ense packaging, or on restaurant menus that boast of wilted spinach, wood-pressed apple juice or barrel-aged white wine. Such language is deployed to evoke an earlier, more authentic era, before machines and hi-tech process-ing, when food was produced by human hand in a way everyone could understand. Something similar has hap

pened to music, now that every band of note is obliged every band of note is obliged to recast its work Unplugged. Clearly, rebelling against the industry's prior domination by synthetic technology, audiences are demanding a more once mega-decibel voice of Bruce Springsteen is now heard in small venues accompanied by just an acoustic guitar and a mouth-organ. The Rolling Stones new album is a pared-down effort

called Stripped.

Fashion is equally affected, as designers puzzle over selling new lines to customers who for most of the nineties have demanded the simple, classic look. Mary Day buys only black clothes - so they'll all match each other. "It's simple," she says.

Car mechanics report de-mands from motorists for cars with fewer sensors and computerised gadgets. They want old-fashioned machines they can understand. The high priests of this cult

are the gurus of the Living Simply movement, concen-trated in Seattle and the Pacific northwest of the US. They have inspired growing numbers of "downshifters" to get by on less money, living simpler, more fulfilling lives. Books like Voluntary Simplicity have become surprise bestsellers while the Trends Research Institute predicts that by the year 2000, 15 per cent of thirty and fortyso-methings will form a "sim-plicity market", buying cheap, long-lasting goods.

Much of this collapses into

nostalgia, with Americans venerating a simpler past (that's why the Waltons' museum in Virginia is such a success). At its heart, it is a reaction against those forces of modern life — cybertechno-logy, the global market — which have shaken the old verities. Recoiling from th new and scary. American are clinging to what the know — and what they under stand. And Steve Forbe



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A toff in aspic

EW ACTORS have ever had a longer run than Patrick Ludlow, whose career spanned most whose of the century and who has died aged 92. In 1918-19 he was the toast of the Queen's Theatre (and later of Broadway) as Midshipman Wing Eden in The Luck Of The Navy, in 1934-35 he had London in stitches as the gawky, frowning bare-kneed and ab-surdly indignant Boy Scout hero of the much-mocked Young England at the Victoria Palace, which for over a year it was the fashion to jeer. And in 1987, with only a "dozen or 16 lines" to speak as the butler Merriman in Donald Sinden's revival of The Importance Of Being Earnest at the Royalty, the old actor upstaged the rest of a starry cast on every entry.
At 84 he looked and played

the tiny part as to the manner born. He had authority, presence and the hang-dog tures of a revered retainer. and he wore his own pre-war tails and white gloves (rather than anything offered by the theatrical costumier) with an easy elegance.

don solicitor and grandson of the engineer who built the Sutton Coldfield railway had been pushed on to the West End stage while still at prep school by his formidable Mrs Worthing Mrs Worthington-type mother. He was educated at University College School. Hampstead, but because of his youthful appearances on the West End stage a governess was also employed.

Chaim Pearl

a rabbi who was con-

sidered so danger-

ously modern that he was old

fashioned. He came from an

gymen were called the Rev.

wore dog collars but no

beards and sometimes even

His trouble was that along

with his learning went his

teaching, and to a later, more

fundamentalist, generation

that was dangerous — be-

Jewish religious terms be-

tween orthodoxy and reform

- known in Britain and Is-

unwitting catalyst to the

rael as masorti (tradition).

went without hats.

1920s and 1930s and which he tried as actor-manager, co-author and director to keep going through the 1940s, although by then it had clearly fallen from fashion.

These theatrical frolics bore such titles as Polly With A Past. Compromising Daphne, By Candlelight, Strictly Personal (known in Paris as Moumou before Lud-low got hold of it), This Thing Called Love, The Anonymous Lover and The Upper Crust. What fascinated him about such socially insignificant

The new naturalism demanded polish. poise and an exact sense of how to

throw away a line

fectively you had to know how to do very little to the maximum effect. Having been Sir Charles Hawirey's juve-nile lead at the St James's in 1920 — the year in which the Guitrys, père et fils, showed London playgoers how the French did it — Ludlow be-

lieved he knew. No gestures, no grimaces, no rhetoric, no rushing about the new naturalism demanded polish, poise, technique, discipline and an exact sense of how to throw away a line. Frederick Lonsdale and | dering where to dine.

HAIM PEARL, who this country. He succeeded large, so his move there is has died aged 76, was the man who became its years later was a natural

New West End Synagogue. It able synagogue in London — was the first in a chain of a role, ironically, it is cur

founder, Rabbi Dr Louis Ja-

cobs, as minister of Bays-water's fashionable orthodox

events which still has reper-

Born and educated in Liver

pool, Pearl took degrees in philosophy and in Hebrew,

Aramaic and Syriac at Lon

don University, and did a PhD on The Medieval Jewish

Mind. His first post as a rabbi

thodox. Thirty years ago, that ling at a Jewish hostel in ish education and was treated label changed to conservative Wales, but in 1945 he went to "as an office boy" by the congregation's parent body, the

congregation, a community which suited his tastes for an

English-style orthodox ser-

In those days, the New West

Old-school cleric

cussions today.

cause he also questioned. In his days in the Anglo-Jewish ministry, he called himself orgogue. He spent the war work-

Indeed, in 1960 he was the wardens and a mixed choir.

movement's establishment in End was Singers Hill writ

His wardrobe had been acquired for the kind of light been at Madam Conti's with comedy which thrived in the Coward) wrote the best plays and Hugh Williams were the most exemplary interpreters of an art which might be summed up in the flick of a

rette case. To the end Ludlow would light a cigarette from a 1930s cigarette case over a glass of dry Madeira before lunch at the Garrick as if he were still in one of Hawirey's or Lons-dale's comedies. If ever Lonsdale is comedies. It is the writing which we are apt to blame for the apparent thinness, but if we still had the orter.

thinness, our if we still had the actors... who knows?

As juvenile leads and dashing young suitors, pompous asses and titled men about town, Ludlow was in his element in such such stuff between the ways. Clothes hung. tween the wars. Clothes hung correctly about his tall, lean figure with the slightly rounded shoulders and he was always impeccably

He got the hang of looking, sounding and behaving like a lord so precisely (or as lords time) that at least one May-fair hostess took him to be one and asked him to her next dinner party. When he realised over cock

tails that there had been some misunderstanding, he smiled apologetically — Ludlow had a warm, wide, aristocratic grin — and announced he was just mister; he found himself suddenly out in the street in white tie and tails and won-

vears later was a natural

gregation was declining, but it had been the most fashion-

rently regaining - scene of

countless Jewish "society" weddings. He fitted it — and it fitted him — like the ber-

What didn't suit him were

the moves towards greater or

thodoxy that led to what was

very close to a religious

schism four years after his arrival. Pearl felt he could not

"as an office boy" by the con-gregation's parent body, the United Synagogue. He left to

serve the conservative Adath

Israel synagogue at River-dale, New York. His commu-nity decided that his prede-cessor, Louis Jacobs, should

return. The move was hotly

opposed by the then Chief Rabbi — because Jacobs, like

Pearl, had disputed the ortho-

dox belief that every word of the Torah was dictated by

Refused the pulpit, Jacobs

formed his own congregation which became the model for

the masorti movement, while

tensely Jewish environment, where he could use his skills as a teacher. He wrote books, was an editor of the Enyclopae dia Of Judaism and the Jewish

Bible Quarterly and co-authored A Guide To Jewish

Knowledge. He produced com-mentaries on the Pentateuch, a study on the 13th century phi

losopher, Rashi, and the clas-sic Book Of Jewish Folklore

And Legend. For the last 15 years, he lived in Israel. He

leaves his wife Anita, three sons and a daughter.

Chalm Pearl, rabbi, born November 25, 1919; died December 18, 1995

Michael Freedland

ent his ideas on Jew-

etta he wore at services.

His peers on stage or screen might not have made him a star — C Aubrey Smith had got to Hollywood some years before Ludlow — but he could be counted on to carry on like a gentleman. He played Lord Henry in the Broadway premiere of Coward's Bitter Sweet, and the Americans took to his toffs — and his authoritative English voice straightaway. Not all his acting, though, was lounge-

Lilian Baylis may have turned him down for the Old Vic (influenced no doubt by that Scoutmaster in Young saw more than once), but he played Cassius in Julius Caesar for New York Television in 1939 and rated it his favourite part; and in the Lon-don blitz while all the other theatres closed he joined Robert Atkins for a Shakespear-ian season at the Vaudeville before going off to entertain the troops at home and

He ran post-war reps at Maidstone (where Joan Collins swept his stage "beauti-fully" as assistant stage manager) and the Isle of Wight; and in the 1950s ventured into what was then considered the avant-garde (Cocteau's The Respectable Prostitute, Genet's The Balcony) but it was drawing room comedy to which he was drawn back again and again.

In his seventies he turned to theatrical journalism. He articles for syndicated theatre programmes, which led him to publish a book of memoirs.



Acting the part . . . the impeccable Patrick Ludlow

Bloody Ludlow, about his plays to managements and career, and his ancestry. Whether he was the longest serving actor on the stage . he played John in Peter Pan (1915) and acted for the last Of Two Cities (Royalty 1988) - not many actors as old and afflicted by deafness as Lud-low keep their wits, humour, manners, dignity and amibition. He was still posting

getting offers to play butlers last year. He was married twice, in

1935 to Hilda Taylor (Paulette Ludlow the actress), and in

John Patrick Sutton Ludlow, so tor, born March 24, 1903; died

of the Arts and Recreation

fell foul of the left takeover in

1981 but bounced back in 1994-

95 as first Labour mayor of

the former staid and stuffy

quickly he fitted into that role. In Brooklyn there are

rabbis who meet for decades

to argue about the mistreat-ment of Old Testament per-

sonalities. Hillman would

have relished the arguments. In rare free moments he con-

sistently argued the case for rehabilitating Esau. Possibly the relationship of Jacob and

Esau with their father Isaac

can now be resolved in

heaven at least.

a dirty word.

Edward Goodman

The Liberals' lateral thinker

DWARD Goodman, who has died aged 81. was a remarkably successful estate agent and property developer who was also a Liberal thinker and an early advocate of what we would now call "subsidiarity". Educated at Mill Hill

School, he had wanted to go on to university but his father's ill health required him to work in the family firm. As a young man he was politically active, especially in the League of Nations youth branch where, although never a communist he worked with John Gollan later to succeed Harry Pollitt as secretary of the British Communist Party. His activities in this area

ought him to the attention of Seebohm Rowntree, the social scientist and son of Joseph, founder of Rowntree. In 1946, Seebohm Rowntree. then chairman of the Joseph Rowntree Social Service Trust, invited the young Edward to join the Board.
Almost simultaneously

with his appointment, Good-man founded the Acton Society Trust, named after Lord Acton, the 19th-century Cambridge historian. Its original intention was as a think tank for the Liberal Party, to serve a similar function to that of

the Fabian Society for the Labour Party.
Goodman was particularly interested in forms of organi-sation and the Acton Society's first task was to study the newly formed National Heath Service. It produced a series of pamphlets on the composi-tion of the boards and

While the Acton Society continued to produce inde-pendent research, Goodman pegan to develop his own line of interests which culminated in publication of The Impact Of Size (1969). This endeav-oured to sketch out how economies of scale could be enjoyed without necessarily having large conglomerate organisations. In a not dissimilar way to

Committee 1973-77. He suc-E E Shumacher, he was an earlier advocate of "small is ceeded in spending a vast budget shrewdly, on anything from football to flamenco. Unbeautiful"; the difference was that whereas Shumacher's work focused on appropriate like some of his colleagues he realised that culture was not or intermediate technology. All of this went with his job Goodman concentrated more lecturing in environmental studies in the Polytechnic of on organisational structures which would secure more North-East London. His ob-session with London under meaningful work and a more thriving industrial and com-London is well catalogued. He

mercial culture. The strongest intellectual influences on Edward Good-man were those of Lord Ac-ton, Simone Weil and the his-TISELY he ran away from Comrade Healey and his commissaars lit was touching to see how work entitled A Study Of Libbarres Smith work entitled A Study Of Lib-erty And Revolution (1975). His ideas also drew on his experience of Italy - he had

- whose institutions he much admired.
His professional and busiurot minit

pess acumen was put to the benefit of the York Academic Trust, which had been financed by the Rowntree Social Service Trust. He nego-tiated the purchase of Hesl-ington Hall, which was to be-come the premises of the University of York. He later secured funding at York University for the Morrell Studies in Toleration, persuading a group of distinguished academics to give annual loc-tures. However, the university failed to recognise in some public way the contribution he had made, over the years, to its success.

His outstanding skill and expertise was in the field of property, and that slightly annoved him. He suffered from the fact that he had no formal academic training, although he enrolled as a part-time graduate student at the Lon-



the 1950s, where he enjoyed the company not only of his old friend Sir Karl Popper but also Lord Robbins.

In later years the Acton Society became a meeting place for a number of young academics, most of whom now hold chairs. He would have stimulated them in all sorts of directions, in ways which might not have happened had they been confined solely within the walls of academia. He was a lateral thinker, which a formal academic training might well have

In addition to being an Italophile, he was a committed Anglican and something of an art connoisseur. He also enjoyed the company of women. It would take an extremely ex-pert anthropologist to disenplicated familial and business networks that he created in a long life. He gave to those who knew him intimately

Edward Frederick Weston Goodman, born January 13, 1915; died retired there in the mid-1960s | February 3, 1996

Birthdays

theatre director, executive producer, Royal Shakespeare Company, 48; David Banks, former editor, Daily Mirror, 48; Caroline Blakiston, actress, 63; Liam Brady, football manager, 40; John Butcher, Conservative MP, 50; Janet Finch, vice-chan-cellor, Reele University, 50; Baroness Flather, vicechairman, Refugee Council, 62; Peter Gabriel, rock artist, 47; John Harris, cricket um-pire, 60; Dr David Hessayon. horticultural author, 68; Beate Klarsfeld, war crimes investigator, 57; Prof Lord Lewis of Newnham, FRS, chemist, warden, Robinson College, Cambridge, 68; John McAllion, Labour MP, 48; Gordon McMaster, Labour MP, 36; Keith Nichola, jazz pianist, bandleader, 51; Kim Novak, actrass 68; Lord Novak, actress, 68; Lord (John) Peyton, 77, and Lord (Francis) Pym. 74, former

Michael Attenborough, | Conservative ministers; Oliver Reed, actor, 58; Margar-etta Scott, actress, 84; George Segal, actor, 62; Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, author, engineer, 72; Sir Edward Wright,

Death Notices

DE LA PORTAS, Abbay (Averil Joycohm) died peecebuly on 5 February 1996 Much loved Gaupiter, sieler, riveral and leacher Funaral Monday 19 February, 2.00pm at 37 Grad's Parish Church, Handford, Wilmelow, Rosers, or densitions to S. Ann's Hoper, or Christe Hospital, and any equalities to AJ Stack Ltd, Wilmslow, 01625 525063. WINTER Francis John R.E. PPSGA. On 7th February peacetuity at Neverts Suntingtord aged 94 years. Funeral at Cembridge Cre-matorium on Thureday 15th February at 1.30pm

In Memoriam

CARNEY 5. died 1983. I'm remembering my lovely J.

twitch. Bird-watching had

A STATE OF THE STA

An old-fashioned modernist . . . Rabbi Chaim Pearl

Running to the left

LLIS Hillman, who has died aged 68, was a long-term figure. the left in London's local government arena. Intended for a religious career, he struck out into a life which could be quirky, zany, but which never moved too far away from the conformity demanded of a future Labour councillor who wished to chair limitless committees. Ellis was a small, enthusi-

astic Jewish teenager when he tried to gain admittance to the fortified West London headquarters of the Revolusometime in 1944. The RCP, a Trotskyist grouping, had apparently procured a few dozen rifles to lead the armed proletarian struggle — unfortunately for them, most of the active proletariat were themselves away fighting fascism. So the revolution was "postponed".

Offered a police amnesty, the RCP managed to get to the wrong police station and throw the nervous constabulary there into bewildered confusion. One or two of these bizarre revolutionaries remain and remember Hillman with humour, even if could afford to race into his they did reject his earnest many and various eccentriciyouthful plea for membership.

membership.
This scenario was typical of Hillman's life. One side of him always wanted to join "the gang that couldn't shoot straight." The other was deeply rooted in the gentle 1958-81 brought him much full lands to Ellis Hillman will remain here and above.

Hit having the Lewis Carroll of remain here and above.

Hit having the Lewis Carroll of remain here and above.

Hityd Harrington

Ellis Hillman, local politician, born November 17, 1827; died

tradition of the Torah and he | filment not least as chairman kept one foot firmly planted of the Arts and Recreation within rabbinical conformity. Apparently in the mid-fif-ties he joined the dialectical school of Gerry Healey and took a part-time job as a cin-ema usher in order to facilitate secret meetings of the incipient Socialist Labour League. Thus the insurgents could meet safely in some remote recess of a vast Brix-ton cinema within Ellis's jurisdiction, away from the prying eyes of MI5. All of it Woody Alienish but enjoyable when he re-told it.

to enjoy the company of the venerable Trotskyite thinker FA Ridley and CLR James, the Marxist and cricket soothsayer, they would gather in Ridley's King's Cross flat for endless talk. Michael Foot popped in there too. Wild and woolly he ap-peared but he was far from it.

for he was secured in a family which produced chief rabbi material, and indeed a cousin became president of Israel. He could afford to race into his ties be it Flat Earther or

The debate continues elsewhere but the affection and regard to Ellis Hillman will

Another Day

was not going to be involved,

February 13, 1870: St Valen- | waistcoats, two coats, a muf- | I could hardly open my mouth tine's Eve: Preached at Clyro in the morning (Matthew xiv, 30). Very few people in Church, the weather fearful, violent deadly E. wind and the hardest frost we have had yet. Went to Bettws in the bardest moustaches and whisafternoon wrapped in two kers were so stiff with ice that | vol 1 (Cape, 1969)

among the boulders and the tufts of campion . . . What?

Where? After unsuccessful Golden Shot commands of left-a-bit and three o'clock, your neighbour (who has driven all the way from North Yorkshire) offers you a peek through his telescope. A plump currant pudding; a tiny feathered buddha, eyes sealed to its celebrity. Phew, it's still there... There is a certain melancholic disjunction between the somnolent, huddled bird and the galvanised good cheer of its gallery, who will now bound



though their heavy gear weighed not an ounce... Imagine that little owl raising an eyelid for a spot of jaundiced human-watching. First distinguishing feature: the decent motor - a 2CV won't give you the speed required for a cross-country dash across England. Then note the high-powered, flour-ite telescope in addition to the Leitz or Zels binoculars... Tick off also the 0891 phoneline that, for 49p a minute, has directions down to the exact grid reference... Finally, confirm the encyclopaedic colour field guides, at

affordable prices thanks to in-ternational co-editions... Yep: those are modern birdwatchers...[Twitching's] provenance is disputed; some attribute [the term] to a certain birder whose dedicated vigils out on the moors caused him to twitch with cold; others insist it was an individual who, in nervous anticipation, would literally twitch with nerves... To travel afield for as many

miles as it took, just to see one particular bird because you'd never seen it before: to

embraced the cult of the rar-ity . . . Even language gave way and remade itself . . . To go after a rare bird and get there too late was to "dip" it, and when your mate got there in time, but you didn't, he'd "gripped you off". A par-ticularly good sight of the treasured quarry? A "crippling view". And political in-correctness found its apogee in the "tart's tick". Take your girlfriend out birding with you and she'd be pointing at chaffinches, wouldn't she, and going "Ah, isn't he pretty?" Thus a callow twitcher boasting of some thing too trivial for the rabid hard-core would be treated to scornful snorts of "Bit of a tart's tick, innit?" Graham Coster goes birdwatching for GQ magazine.

Jackdaw wants your jewels. Emall jackdaw@guardian-.co.uk: fax 0171-713 4366: Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London

Dan Glaister

Jackdaw

Smoky bear DEAR MARVIN,

I am a police officer in Southern California. Approximately two years ago, I was tally deranged woman who was attacking my partner with a knife... The two years between the shooting and the civil trial were stress-filled. but were also filled with an port from my family, fellow officers and many citizens . One of the many things which made the past two years bearable was what I would like to call the "Brotherhood of the Cigar". Many a night on pat-rol found a lull in the action, night in protecting a fallen

which was then filled with myself and several of my fellow officers sharing cigars, usually La Unica 100s or Cuba Aliados robustos, with an occasional La Gloria Cubana (whenever we could find them). Those times allowed me to talk about the incident,

which tremendously lessened the stress I felt. More often "therapy" sessions were ended by an urgent call for service, usually a shooting or a stabbing.

Another stress reliever was being able to attend sev-eral cigar dinners sponsored by one of the local tobacco shops. To be able to spend an evening in the company of others enjoying a fine dinner, fine wines and more than satisfactory cigars, conversing about simple pleasures, was "just what the doctor or-dered". In fact, one of the jurors in my trial was dismissed by the other side because he had met me at one of the dinners . . . It did not take the jury long to deliber-

ate and conclude that I had no

officer. Immediately after the verdict, I called my wife with the good news. The second thing I did was go to a fast food drive through, buy lunch and go to Smitty's store. I gave Smitty the news, ate my lunch and then pur-chased a Hoyo de Monterrey Excalibur No 1. That was the best smoke I'd had in two

years! A letter from Darryl George Wood to Cigar Aficionado magazine. Thanks to Martin Colyer. More true cigar stories

Model ghost

JUDITH SPELMAN: Tell me about ghost-writing Swan. Caroline Upcher: I was working for Reed, the publisher, as a freelance and they called me to say they might be publishing Naomi Campbell's novel: Did I know any writer who would do it? I said, really as a joke, that I could do it. They thought that was a good idea and I had to be vetted by Naomi's agent. I had no idea what sort of book they wanted and when I received a very i met Naomi I realised that she royalty cheque.

she was going to be so busy. I went and sat in the model agency: I worked on the book-ing table for quite a time. It was a different kind of book to do because Reed had no clue about the sort of book they wanted. So I had to make the whole thing up. I came up with the idea of having five young girls, all of different backgrounds, and how they were discovered. JS: But she put her name to it. How did you feel about that? CU: Fine. That was the deal

from the outset. JS: Why did you do it? CU: I had been doing journalism and I loved doing the research, and the carte blanche it gave you to be nosy! When this book came up, I went to New York, I went to the Paris Collections, and I did a whole year of research-ing the fashion industry. I had a great time doing it. Then I had to do what I love

doing, to create a story and

write it. It had all the excite

received a very interesting

ment of journalism. It went out under Naomi's name but I

Writer Caroline Upcher inter-viewed in Writing Magazine about her role in the writing of Naomi Campbell's novel Swan. Thanks to Cristine Shuttleworth.

Twitch, twitch IT IS A weekday morning, well out of holiday season.

but already Morwenstow's church car park is full. Ahead, a straggling proce sion of men —they are all men - toils purposefully across the fields towards Henna Cliff, weighed down with packs and bundles like infantry marching up the line. Strolling back the other way, and at half this punishing pace, are those who have already got what we need, exchanging boasts of previous hectic missions: "Yeah, I done Guildford to Titchwell in two and a half hours . . . Join the crowd — with their zoom lenses and telescopes they look lke a gaggle of paparazzi up on the grassy ridge — and follow their loving gaze till you make out,

<u>م بهر</u> و در در در در ب**ند**ر محر مان در

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eson tell

Vegas big wheels eye London, page 12

Factory gate boost for Clarke, page 12

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

Eurotunnel calls in 'sages'

Wakeham to try to strike debt refinancing deal

Alex Duval Smith in Paris and Patrick Denovan

ORD Wakeham, the former Tory minis-ter and leader of the House of Lords, has been drafted in to help break the deadlock in the £8 billion refinancing negotia-

porting banks. The debt-en-cumbered channel tunnel operator announced that Lord schild director and head of the Press Complaints Com-mission, will be appointed mediator alongside Robert Badinter, Socialist former head of France's constitu-

Eurotunnel yesterday at-tempted to put a positive spin

The company disclosed that revenues for the full year in 1995 were £298.5 million nearly £20 million better than previously expected. Current year revenue figures will show growth of "more than 50 per cent", the company fore-

But it conceded that it could not rule out the option of swapping bank debt for equity to get out of its financ-ing crisis. French sharehold-ers, who have invested £3 billion, have seen the value of their shares plummet from French co-chairman Pat

rick Ponsolle said; "We want to preserve the rights of

on the news by insisting that a dividend payment to share holders was still "possible" so that they can look forward ment was announced after the market had closed. Eurotunnel holders was still "possible" sever, part of their rights — in consultation with them — unchanged at \$4p. may have to be conceded to

> Mr Ponsolle added: "I am not calling for Eurotunnel to be bailed out. It is not a struggling company. Rather, 1 am speaking as a contractor whose contract has been breached. We are being hampered by the slowness in the upgrading of the Folkestone to London line, caused by the break-up of British Rail in the

the creditors".

run-up to privatisation". He said it remained unac ceptable that Eurotunnel was obliged to pay £1.6 million a year to Kent Constabulary whereas the services of French police were provided free of charge.

The mediators' appoint

unchanged at 84p.
But analysts remained un-

impressed. The appointment was the first official confirmation that debt renegotia-tions have become bogged down in unexpected prob-

Richard Hannah, transport expert at UBS, said: "If it is all so marvellous, why is Eur-otunnel at death's door financially. How come it is all so marvellous when it can't even pay its interest bill?" Talks with the 225 banks started after Eurotunnel was

forced to negotiate an interest payment freeze last Septem ber because of its deteriorating financial situation.
The mediators, who were

appointed under a 1994

The two men were appointed by the Paris commercial Mr Ponsolle said: "Our

move to push for the appoint ment of mediators — which we prefer to call sages -should not be interpreted by the banks as aggressive".

However, legal experts in Paris indicated that the pro-

cedure usually worked in companies' rather than banks favour. One said: "The system functions very well for employers and trade unions, since the mediators usually take into account human elements, like jobs, ahead of the institutional in vestors' demands."

Test of wills for Ken and Eddie



Edited by Alex Brummer

HE Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, will no doubt be elated by the January producer prices figures, which give support to his gut feeling that the UK faces no inflationary danger. With the Bank of England's inflation report due to be released omorrow, accompanied by warnings about monetary growth and the trend in pay settlements, the stage is set for another rousing act in the Ken and Eddie show.

Mr Clarke's gamble on keeping downward pressure on interest rates wins some support from the latest producer price data. The figures show a dramatic decline in the input prices on which industry costs are largely based. In August of last year those prices were rising at an annual rate of 9.1 per cent. Last month they were down to 4 per cent, reflecting the stronger sterling exchange rate and the sharp decline in commodity prices. Rapid des-tocking, which is taking place in the developed world as de-mand falls, is feeding through

directly to global price levels. However, it is not just input prices which are improving. The current weakness in the demand side of the economy means that manufacturers are finding it extremely difficult to raise prices to recover costs, as has traditionally been the case in January. This meant that the annual producer price inflation rate was down to 3.6 per cent in January compared to 4.4 per

Nevertheless, it looks as if Mr Clarke is continuing to gather the ammunition he needs to keep interest rates coming down this Spring, in the hope of delivering something close to the 3 per cent growth he foolishly promised in the Budget and more of the "feel good" factor which has been elusive for so long.

The agenda of the Gover-nor, Mr George, is very different. As the man in charge of the boiler room at the Bank of England during the inept defence of the pound in Septem-ber 1992, he knows how highrisk strategies can backfire. The objective of the Inflation Report is to reduce the risk of missing the central inflation target of 25 per cent and en-sure that the inflation outlook, not just now but in 18 months' time, is not jeopar-dised. The test of wills between Threadneedle Street and Number 11 is going thermo-nuclear once again.

Lioyd's lament

HE decision by Lloyd's of | will result in compliance with London to issue a de-tailed document out-

with public relations as real-ity. With the departure of the former chief executive, Peter Middleton, and his replace-ment by Ronald Sandler there has been an impression that the pace and enthusiasm for reform, of which the settle-ment with the Names is a vital part, has been slowing. Given the complexity of bal-ancing the interests of those

Names who have refused to pay up and have taken to the law courts, and those who have met their obligations, the settlement offer appears a reasonable balance.
However, that is not the

way it seems to many of the action groups. They now argue that the proposed £100.000 cap on their liabilities is too high and they would like to see it brought down to £50,000. Indeed, there are no doubt some investors who believe they should be required to pick up none of the tab at all. Of course the Names did in many cases receive poor ad-

of them went into Lloyd's with their eyes open in expectation of unlimited profits. Given the enormous accu-mulated market losses, they should be grateful that their potential liabilities have been limited. There may be room for tinkering with this deal around the edges by, for inst-nace, increasing the amount paid into the rescue fund by managing agents and those auditors who already have

lost out in the courts However, continuing the litigation will ensure that the Lloyd's investors drag down the whole market and reform process with them, ruining leadership in insurance can be preserved.

Greenbury groans

ISCONTENT with the rectors' pay and conditions continues to rumble the central message of a report by the accountants Coopers & Lybrand.

Based on interviews with a small number of leading UK companies, Coopers concludes that companies are complying grudgingly. They report a feeling that boardroom freedoms are being curtailed by over-prescriptive being exposed to too much

Such views might be understandable, were it not for the background of irresponsible and hypocritical practices which prompted the creation of the Greenbury committee in the first place. During the 1980s directors gorged themselves on big salaries, easy bonuses and risk-free share options, while at the same tions of their staff.

Given that background, it is absolutely right that direc-tors pay and perks should be subject to the widest scrutiny. The trouble is, as the aver-sion elicited by Coopers demonstrates, that Greenbury the letter but not the spirit of tailed document out-lining its £2.8 billion settle-ment offer to its alienated investors is as much to do the mately with the shareholders.

per cent. With shares in United, owner of the Daily and Sunday Express, stand-

The MAM share sale was

followed by the disclosure that Hermes, the Post Office

and Telecommunications pen-sion fund manager, had sold

50,000 United shares at 654p,

reducing its holding to 3.8 million shares or 1.56 per

Although the share sales could indicate that fund man-

cent of the company.

Meat Loaf seeking £9.3m for lost royalties, report Lisa Buckingham and Mark Tran



Bat out of Hell bites Sony

EAT LOAF, the larger-than-life rockstar, yesterday launched a suitably heavyweight legal action directed at Sony, claiming more than £9.3 million in compensation for an alleged shortfall in royalties. The 20-stone singer's tar-

get is a small Ohio record label — Cleveland International - that signed a contract in 1977 with CBS's Epic Records, which was bought by Sony in 1988, to manufacture and distribute the hit album Bat Out of

The move follows a similar suit by Cleveland against Sony five months ago. Cleveland accused the Japanese conglomerate of "wilfully and maliciously" CBS label it acquired some Sony for \$100 million. castle upon Tyne distorting contract deductions are a single spring.

ZW, the investment banking arm of Bar-clays Bank, came close

to suspending its options

trading last December, after a number of key computer staff

were poached by its fast-grow-ing German rival, West Mer-

BZW, which has since replaced the team, was only able to continue trading by retaining two specialist con-



Heavyweight action. . . pop star Meat Loaf who believes that he has not had his cut

its contract by refusing to payments.
disclose financial records He claim

Their departure left BZW

with the choice of either shut-

ting down the system, which carries a direct information feed to BZW boss Peter Mid-dleton, or offering the two

consultants higher salaries.
One BZW insider said the

situation was typical of the way in which British banks

run their information tech-

nology operations. He said: "It was a joke

retaining two specialist consultants at salaries thought to be over £150,000 a year.

The four-strong team — responsible for designing and running the hi-tech system, without which trading capped.

without which trading cannot | recruited as part of a drive by

Poaching hits BZW options

He claimed last year that

Cleveland needed to complete an accounting of funds owed to Meat Loaf.
The 48-year-old American on his albums. He had inisinger says Sony, and the tially threatened to sue

continue — left after being | WMB — the investment bank | bought one of London's best-hand-picked by the Germans. | ing arm of Westdeutsche | known stockbrokers, Pan-

Landesbank — to become a leading City player. Last September, it poached 10 de-rivatives experts, including three executives, from Deut-

sche Morgan Grenfell as part of its decision to run its global

Patrick Macdougall, chair-

man and chief executive of WMB, confirmed the appoint-

ment of the BZW quartet. He said: "Yes, we did ap-

point the team, but I didn't

think it was especially note-

tions in order to reduce | than 266 million from his | officially - despite being | royalty payments. It also work but has failed to pass plain old Meat to his claimed that Sony violated on the proper royalty friends — was incensed its contract by refusing to payments. featuring Bonnie Tyler. The 48-year-old Mea Loaf, who now records for Thorn-EMI's Virgin label, is due to perform at New castle upon Tyne's new

mure Gordon, for £30 million, and is expected to recruit a

further 300 staff in London over the next three years.

Yesterday, WMB, which has also posched a number of

derivatives experts from SBC

Warburg, said it had re-cruited Timothy Von Halle, a

senior executive at Merrill

Lynch's Frankfurt operation.

to head up its bond sales and

to be bracing itself for a fresh

series of departures, this time

Meanwhile, BZW is thought

trading arm in London.

worthy — we have been steadily building up both front and back-office staff in that area."

among its derivatives trading team. Morale is said to be low after BZW decided against pay-

Earlier this month, WMB ing the traders big bonuses.

In the suit. Meat Loaf, I York, alleges that royalties whose real name is Marvin Lee Aday, also asks the court to rule that the defendants bave forfeited all rights and interests to himself, that the master recordings should revert to him and that Sony be barred from selling any Ment Loaf recordings.

The action, filed in New Not a Dry Eye in the House.

Names demand more money 'or

HE plan by Lloyd's of London to split its pro-posed £2.8 billion settle-

David Rowland, chairman of Lloyd's, which has lost

Names who are actively in-volved in litigating over their

insurance market's investors. cated to Names - whether

paid their losses in full are not disadvantaged, while wealthy Names who have refused to pay do not benefit unduly. Key to the proposals is a £100,000 cap on the amount of extra money Names will have to pay after their deposits at Lloyd's have been exhausted. Names have to deposit around 30 per cent of their underwriting capacity at Lloyd's — often this is in the form of bank guarantees on houses. Lloyd's is aware that many Names might lose their homes as a result. David Rowland said that if

from Bat Out of Hell - esti-

mated to have sold more than 30 million copies and

which spent eight years in the UK charts — are among

A spokesman for Sony yesterday declined to com-ment on the action. But

Meat Loaf's latest single is

the outstanding debts.

Names rejected the deal they would face a much starker future if the market simply collapsed. "We have to take from those who have in order to give to those who have not," he said. Meanwhile the Commons

select Treasury and civil service committee yesterday reopened its investigation into Lloyd's when it grilled trade minister, Anthony Nelson, over the Government's response to last autumn's report on the market.

The report had described volved in litigating over their Lloyd's regulation as "irre-losses or 40 per cent of the trievably tarnished". Mr Nelson denied that the

and said there was a case for

MAM sells MAI in no-bid bet

Lisa Buckingham

AJOR shareholders in the media groups MAI and United News at 406p. yesterday sold large tranches of stock, apparently in a bet that Michael Green's Carlton Communications would not rush in to scupper a planned merger between the two corporations with its own hostile Mercury Asset Manage-

ment, a major investor in Lord Hollick's MAI group, which owns Anglia and Meridian TV, sold 870,000 shares, price of MAI and United will on top of the 8.3 million disbed driven higher by a hostile posal which it made last bid, analysts said yesterday Friday.

The sale, at between 430p simply be seeking a profit and 442p a share, reduced the turn on a small part of their group's holding in MAI to 5.98 holdings.

that the institutions could

at 406p.

TOURIST HATES - BANK SELLS

Australia 1.96 Australia 1.96 Germany 2.1900 Maita 0.5425 South Africa 5.40 Germany 2.1900 Maita 0.5425 South Africa 5.40 Canada 2.04 Hong Kong 11.61 New Zezland 2.22 Sweden 10.55 Openmark 8.50 Ireland 0.9550 Finland 7.01 Israel 4.78 Saudi Arabia 5.67 USA 1.4825

Leeson tells his tale of disguise

Dan Atkinson

disguise.

chant Bank.

Marin Carlo

AILED trader Nick Leeson, making his authorial debut, yesterday disclosed how he was able for so long to hide the huge losses that broke his employer, Bar-

ings bank. His skill, it would seem, was not so much forgery or deception, but masterly

Camouflaged behind his striped blazer and mid-Atlantic hadinage, Leeson con-vinced Barings that he was a chap in a baseball cap whose obscure trading antics were obscure trading antics were and the making them a mint whereas, actually, these antics were about to close the obscure trading antics were about to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed to close the obscure trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — according to the size of their closed trader.

bank. Failing to spot the difference between the two was fateful Thursday, Mr Railton according to the first experience of the tract from Mr Leeson's biography, serialised in the Daily Mail — largely down to Tony Railton, the senior settle-Barings UK to clear up cash

flow worries.

Mr Railton had sat next to sions, 'It looked that way,' he Leeson during the month run-ning up to the dealer's flight

The street of the dealer's flight

Having survived this street or the street or t

Despite this proximity, Mr

Tokyo market.

"How was the market?"
Brilliant.' I flashed him a
smile which unambiguously
spelt out that I'd made a lot of ments clerk sent over from money. 'I'm sorry. It was crazy out there.' I nodded and let him draw his own conclu-

Having survived this gruelfrom Singapore on February ling inquisition, there wasn't much left for Nick to do, other Railton was, apparently, quite for "one hell of a holiday".

This was to be a break with a difference: neither Nick nor his wife Lisa was planning a

him a heart attack". The senior clerk's failure to find the losses was pathetic. offers the most practical solu-A little unfair, considering Leeson himself hadn't dared made up of an £800 million look at the "error" account all payment and a £2 billion debt

month: "It scared me to credit The £800 million fund death." And anyway, no one will be paid mainly to those else knew trouble was loom. Names who are actively ining. Except his fellow traders. And the local press, which rang him that last Thursday to ask what he was up to. But no one apart from that. Certainly not Barings.

rescue will fail'

Pauline Springett

ment offer among its loss-stricken Names was attacked by action group leaders yes-terday as inadequate. They said the split was un-fair towards the insurance market's investing Names who had paid their losses, the proposed £100,000 cap on liabilities was pitched too high, and unless significantly more money was injected into the compensation pot, the

£11 billion in recent years, ac-knowledged that the proposals not possible to be as fair as we would like," he said. "But this tion to our problems." The £2.8 billion offer is

The £2 billion package of Government's response to the debt forgiveness will be allo-Rogue Trader, by Nick Lee they are suing or not — acreviewing the regulation of son, began serialisation in the cording to the size of their Lloyd's, but he said there baily Mail yesterday. It is losses The aim will be to enshould be a delay, until the

After decade of rapid growth in US, gaming groups look across **Atlantic**



Wheel deals . . . Sharon Stone in Martin Scorsese's movie, Casino, which opens in London this month. Now gambling Las Vegas-style may come to the UK

_as Vegas contemplates a gamble on London

OUTLOOK/Britain's casino business is opening up in advance of deregulation. IAN KING reports

parts, according to market sources. London Clubs International is the

likeliest bid target.
London Clubs, whose shares yesterday hit a new closing high of 499p, up 13p, is just one of several groups whose casino businesses are still highly attractive — even though other parts of the multi-billion pound gambling business.notably bookmaking, have suffered severely as a result of competition from

the National Lottery.
Others include Stakls, the hotels group, which last week sold its Barrakuda casino in London to Ladbroke for £27.5 million, Stanley Leisure, the Merseyside-based bookie with a string of 21 casinos across northern England, and Capital Corporation, which owns Crockfords.

Even Rank, whose Grosve-nor business is Britain's hig-gest casino operator, could be in the frame.

The prospective buyers are thought to include Harrah's, the aggressively expanding Memphis-based casino opera-tor, Las Vegas-based Circus Circus Enterprises, and ITT, which owns the Sheraton Hotels chain and the Caesar's

MERICAN casino is reportedly considering alcohol sales will be relaxed, building a casino and leisure complex on wasteland on the north Kent coast.

allowing casinos to offer big-ger prizes and payment by plastic cards.

First, the US gaming industry is at saturation point with the past decade's rapid expansion leaving little room for further domestic growth.

Secondly, the Americans seen as crucial in attracting

regard Europe as ripe for nore casinos. Britain, where casinos are booming, is the natural place to start

Even the mid-to-low end of the market — which one might expect to have been most severely hit by Anthea Turner's Saturday night antics — is prospering, mainly because the sums normally wagged are higher mally wagered are higher than the small-ticket gambles against which the National

Lottery competes.
At the top end, meanwhile, casinos such as those operated by London Clubs are in big demand, boosted by an influx last summer of high rollers, mainly from the Middle and Far East.

Thirdly, the most sweeping deregulation ever of British casinos is expected over the next few years.
The Government is prepar-

Hotels chain and the Caesar's
World gaming business.
Also sniffing around is Donald Trump, the flamboyant
New York businessman, who

HALF OF ALL DEATHS ARE FROM HEART AND CIRCULATORY DISEASE. HELP US FIGHT BRITAIN'S No 1 KILLER. CALL 0990 200 656.

proposals are as sweeping as is rumoured, analysts say

There are several reasons why America's leisure combines are focusing on Britain.

A change in membership rules is most likely, particularly to the so-called "48-hour rule", which requires gam-blers to register as members

British Heart Foundation

seen as crucial in attracting short-stay tourists to Lon-don's casinos.



ber of snags which would pre-vent an immediate wave of monopolies problems. If, for instance, Ladbroke, which is takeovers of British casinos. For a start, foreign compa-nies cannot at present own ca-sinos. Although the Green tivities, bought London Clubs, it would own almost half of the capital's casinos making a monopolies reference odds on.
Finally, there is the vexed question of the City, which unlike its counterpart in New York — where casino stocks trade at a premium to the market — has traditionally regarded casinos as rather

- now home to 21 of

Britain's 118 casinos — could become the world's biggest

gambling city after Las

Vegas. There are, however, a num-

ple. Having won a respectable market following, the com-pany, on the hasis of the Barrakuda deal, has a potential value far higher than the £353 million suggested by its share price. It could, indeed,

But if the Government's | Paper may propose to alter

this, other changes are likely to take a higher priority than

British casinos.

allowing foreigners to buy up

Secondly, any buyer would

have to have an established gaming licence, since only an

approved operator may run a

This, in turn, could lead to

keen to expand its casino ac-

eedy. London Clubs, which pulled

its original flotation plans five years ago after a series of

police raids, is a good exam-

be worth up to £500 million. The fact that London Clubs does not enjoy a higher market rating now is testimony to the troubled image casinos still have in some quarters. It could also make it fairly easy for a predator to pick off. loans.

Bryant sales slump in poor house market

BRYANT yesterday blamed of gradual improvement as the "pretty awful" state of the housing market for a to reduction in personal taxslump in profits and sales, but ation and interest rates." raised tenuous hopes for an He hoped to see an imp improvement this year.

The chairman, Sir Colin Hope, said six-month profits to November 30 had more than halved to £10.1 million with "a distinct lack of bouse pur-chaser confidence throughout the UK". The best the group could manage was static selling prices. The cost of sales second half of 1995 but pre-had risen while the volume dicted a recovery this year. Ket and had, arguably, over-had fallen 12 per cent to 1,530. Michael Foster, an analyst paid for land in 1994 and 1995.

prospects for the housing mar-ket in 1996 are showing signs He honed to see an improve-

ment in operating margins and stuck to the medium-term target of producing 4,000 homes a year for the middle-to-upper sectors of the market.

The group has now joined other UK home-builders which had produced worsethan-expected results for the

Looking ahead he said: "The | at Greig Middleton, said he would cut his end-of-year forecast from £24 million to "not less than" £20 million. He said Bryant had been unable to pass on the high prices it had paid for good quality land to the final customer and there had been problems with

design and marketing.

Analysts at NatWest said the group had now reduced its staff by 10 per cent. But its problems had been compounded by its aggressive expansion in the past two years. It had pushed up its overhead

Biggest drop in producer inflation for 15 years

Factory prices set scene for rate cut

Larry Elliott Economics Editor

HE City was gearing up last night for a fur-ther cut in the cost of mand prompting the biggest fall for 15 years in the underlying inflation rate of goods aving factory gates. Analysts said the lates

data from the Central Statisti-cal Office (CSO) gave the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, the perfect justification for third cut in the cost of borrowing since September

ducer price inflation drop-ping from 4.4 per cent to 3.8 per cent, Andrew Cates of UBS said the figures were powerful weapons to a Chancellor who needs to lower base rates to aid his party's political fortunes".
The CSO's data reflects the

strong competitive pressures on UK manufacturers, who goods wane both at home and abroad in recent months.

As the Bank of England pre-pares to release its influential

nflation report tomorrow, Mr Clarke is certain to draw comfort from the data on factory gate prices — one of the best indicators of retail prices in a few months' time. Dealers ex-

to 6 per cent next month. Jan-uary is the month in which firms tend to change their list wrices, but the 6.4 no real is crease last month was well down on the 1.0 per cent recorded 12 months earlier, the CSO said.

The underlying rate of producer price inflation — which strips out food, beverages, tobacco and petroleum cause they can be affected by Budget tax changes — showed an even bigger fall, from 4.4 per cent to 3.6 per cent.

Officials said the last time there had been a larger drop in the cause of the cause o

in the core rate of producer prices was in January 1981, when the economy was deep The difficulty firms are

per cent monthly increase in prices excluding food, beverages, petroleum and tobacco the lowest rise for a January for 23 years.

Manufacturers are being helped to keep their prices in check by smaller bills for fuel and raw materials, which are being reduced by the impact of the slowdown in global

Against a background of weakening commodity prices, industry's input prices fell by 0.3 per cent in January. The annual rate of increase in fuel

months ago.
Simon Briscoe, economist at Nikko Bank, said it was encouraging that companies had not tried to force through higher prices in the wake of lower base rates and stories of stronger retail perfor-mance over the Christmas

The monthly survey from the British Retail Consortium released today showed that consumer spending remained on an upward trend into the New Year, building on the ro-bust activity in the run-up to

Christmas.

The cold snap boosted demand for "comfort food" such as soups and pies, but took its toll on clothing and footwear ales as the five-week trading period from December 31 to February 3 drew to a close.

Overall however, the like-for-like value of high street sales was still 4.1 per cent ahead of last year, according to the BRC's Retail Sales

This was similar to the 4.3 per cent growth rate recorded in December and suggests that the pick-up in consumer spending detected at the end of last year is being sustained into the New Year, unlike 1995 when an encouraging Christmas was followed by a and materials dropped from sharp fall-back in January.
5.9 per cent to 4.0 per cent, said the consortium.

European Union average of

10.9 per cent, he said.

Speaking at a London press conference. Mr Forth admitted that job growth had been

part-time jobs, but denied this was a problem. Only a small

minority — 14 per cent — of part-time workers wanted a full-time job.

The gap between different parts of the UK had also less-

ened, he said, with Scotland and the South-east showing

similar rates of unemploy

Jobs U-turn 'a Tory ploy'

ABOUR yesterday accused the Government of attempting to woo insecure workers back to the Conservative fold by tearing up its deregulatory agenda in

Employment minister Eric Forth, unveiling an upbest document on UK prospects, said the right balance had been struck between employee protection and the reedom of firms to hire and fire. Further cuts in regulation were not required.

Trafalagar

steel iob

wins £500m

The Opposition seized on the statement as a policy U-turn after years of cutting

back job regulations. Ian using an internationally com-McCartney, shadow employ-ment spokesperson, said: which was well below the This is a government run-ning scared of its own poli-cies, reaping the reward from the deregulated market it has created, and from a plague of job insecurity."

But Mr Forth said that the removal of strict job condi-tions had been good for the efficiency of the market and for workers. Excessive regu-lation and minimum wages made companies reluctant to take staff on, by raising the cost of labour and making it more difficult to shed staff if

conditions worsened.

As a result, the UK had a jobless rate of 8.6 per cent — more," the minister said.

News in brief

from Thais

THE struggling Trafalgar House group looks to have won the biggest-ever deal between Britain and Thailand, to construct a £433 million-to-£500 mil-

lion steelworks for Thai Special Steel, TSSI. Anurak Kongtoranint, president of TSSI, said the

wording of the contract, still being worked on with Trafalgar, would be signed at the end of the month.

The size of the deal sent the group's sbares up Ip to 33p, but analysts were cautious about the effect on the

industrial conglomerate, which shocked the City in December with losses of £821 million. A Trafalgar spokesman said: "Work on the iron and

steel-making plant will start within a matter of weeks of the contract being signed and will take two to three years to complete. It will provide a considerable amount of work for Trafal-gar's engineering division Davy International." TSSI officials said the

signing may be witnessed by the Prime Minister, John Major, who is in Bangkok for the Asia-Euro-

pean summit on March 1-2.
The steel complex, which will produce 2.75 million tonnes of hot liquid iron, 1.1 million tonnes of coke and 2.15 million tonnes of billets a year from early 1998, will obtain tax privi-leges from the state Board of Investment. It will be fi-nanced by Thai and foreign

Record double for Kvaerner

KVAERNER, the Norwegian shipbuilding, oil, pulp and paper group which failed in a £360 million bid for Amec construction at the end of last year, yesterday reported doubled pre-tax profits for 1995. They climbed to a record 2.44 billion crowns (£247 million) on sales of 30.2 billion crowns (£3 billion).
Shipbuilding, oil and gas turned in good results, but
Kvaerner said the progress of the British arm of the oil and gas
business was "unsatisfactory and results in this market were
negative". Performance in pulp and paper was "weak" while
angineering business was "mixed". — Mark Milner

Axe out at Renault

RENAULT, the French car giant, is planning to cut more than 2,750 jobs over the next 12 months, according to union sources. Though the state-owned company has refused to comment, an unnamed union representative, quoted on the Reuter financial news service, accused Renault of trying to intimidate the workforce ahead of this year's pay round, which opens today, by threatening jobs.

threatening jobs.

Last year's pay talks were hit by industrial action, and yesterday the union representative said: "Management is trying to intimidate employees by brandishing its jobs plan in advance so that they will push less hard on the wages side."

The jobs cut was said to be part of Renault's plans to boost productivity by 8 per cent this year. — Mark Milner

Accountants spurn marriage

CHARTERED accountants have turned down plans to merge with the management accountants' professional body, Cima, in another blow against integration of the fragmented profession. Cima members, who predominantly work in industry and commerce, were overwhelmingly in favour of the merger plans,

announced in December.

But a survey of members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales showed that almost two-thirds were opposed. Members aged over 50 were in the only group which

opposed. Members aged over or were in the only group which produced a majority in favour.

Members of the institute have turned down several integration attempts over the past 25 years among the six bodies representing auditors, tax specialists and accountants in industry, commerce, private practice and the public sector. — Roger Course

PIA praises banks' move THE UK's largest banks will not use time-barring to avoid paying

compensation to victims of mis-sold pensions.

Abbey National, Barclays, Lievds/TSB, Midland, NatWest and Royal Bank of Scotland, all members of the Bancassurance group of the British Bankers' Association, followed the lead of the Prudential which last week said it would not exploit the Limita

The act states that claimants can lose the right to take their case to court six years after the pension was sold or three years after discovering a grievance.

The time limit, if exercised by pensions providers, would hinder the progress of the Personal Investment Authority's pen-

The PIA chairman, Joe Palmer, praised the banks' decision as "positive and constructive" and encouraged more firms to do the

ame. -- Cliff Jones

Lottery spending to thrive

ANNUAL spending on the National Lottery will reach up to \$7 billion by the end of the century, a report claimed yesterday. The report, compiled from research conducted by academics at Sheffield University, predicts that by the end of the century, the average British family will be spending some \$7,000 a year—around \$125 a week—on leisure, including the Lottery. The researchers also forecast that "family entertainment centres", such as Scottish & Newcastle's expanding Center Parcs, will tres", such as Scottish & Newcastle's expanding Center Parcs, will become increasingly popular. — Ian King

The fileteass Twick Euro :

England anakerd

Racing

Winburn

- 1 KA ...

Eiderpu Aintree

Rugby Union

Twickers wants **Euro soccer**

Robert Armstrong

WICKENHAM plans to market itself as a venue for European soccer and rugby league internationals within the next two or three seasons.

Tony Hallett, the Rugby Football Union secretary, wants the ground to become more cost-effective by staging high-profile fixtures in other professional sports to supplement major rugby union

matches.
"I am keen to see the excel-lent, up-to-date facilities we now have at Twickenham put to use for European soccer knockout competitions," Hal-lett said yesterday. "I also be-lieve we could become the main venue in the south for rugby league occasions.

Twickenham's 75.000 allseat capacity will give the sta-dium a substantial advantage over soccer grounds such as Highbury and Stamford Bridge in generating gate revenue. Even though Twickenham falls short of Wembley's than the niceties of healing 78.000 capacity, its state-ofthe-art dressing room, catering and media facilities are
bound to enhance its appeal.

It would be feasible to hold

It members of healing
the first facilities are
bound to enhance its appeal.

It would be feasible to hold

the finals of the European Cup and Cup Winners' Cup at Twickenham from time to time instead of Wembley. The installation of floodlights paved the way for the potential introduction of evening soccer, though the RFU has no plans to schedule the kickoff time of rugby union matches later than 3pm.

cutta Cup match against Scot-land at Murrayfield, writes

Alred will be in Australia coaching New South Wales

during their final prepara-

tions for the southern hemi-

sphere Super-13 tournament.

He will also help Manly dur-

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page to project (PCC)

the control

giving practical effect to the reconciliation with Rugby League 101 years after the split into two codes. The ex-cellent reputation for good behaviour that League support-ers enjoy would appeal to the RFU executive committee should it decide to back Hallett and offer Twickenham as a Test venue and new home for the Challenge Cup final

The participation of Wigan in the Middlesex Sevens in in the Middlesex Sevens in May is almost certain to break down any lingering resistance within the RFU to establishing working contact with the Rugby League. The double-header between Bath and Wigan, who plan to share around £400,000 from games in their respective codes, should emphasize the mea should emphasise the mes-sage that Union and League have much to gain from practical co-operation.

ics of running Twickenham on sound business lines have major rugby matches a season with perhaps the same number of relatively minor fixtures thrown in.

English club rugby, mean while, will take a significant step towards preserving its new professional identity at National League level by set-ting up an English Profes-sional Clube' Association at a Hallett has no qualms about | meeting in London today.

national coaching set-up.

This will not be the first

time he has taken his expert-ise Down Under. The Walla-hies used him frequently in

their build-up to the last

World Cup and tried unsuc-

cessfully to secure his services on an exclusive basis

during the tournament.

Enter Eric Elwood to star England kicked aside by Alred DAVE ALRED, widely regarded as the world's half Paul Grayson's dismal leading specialist kicking kicking performance against coach, will not be working with the England squad in the build-up to next month's Calbell saga of the Eighties.

Not even Humphreys could have envisaged his leap into the big time at the start of the season, when he did not make the preliminary list of Ireland players. His sudden rise has come on the back of three good performances — for Oxford in the Varsity Match, in

New fly needs luck of the Irish

Karl Johnson on David Humphreys, latest hope for the long-service award

SINCE Jackie Kyle started the frend al-most 50 years ago. Ire-land fly-halves have tended to be in the running for long-service awards. Mike Gibson and Barry McGann had sizeable ten-

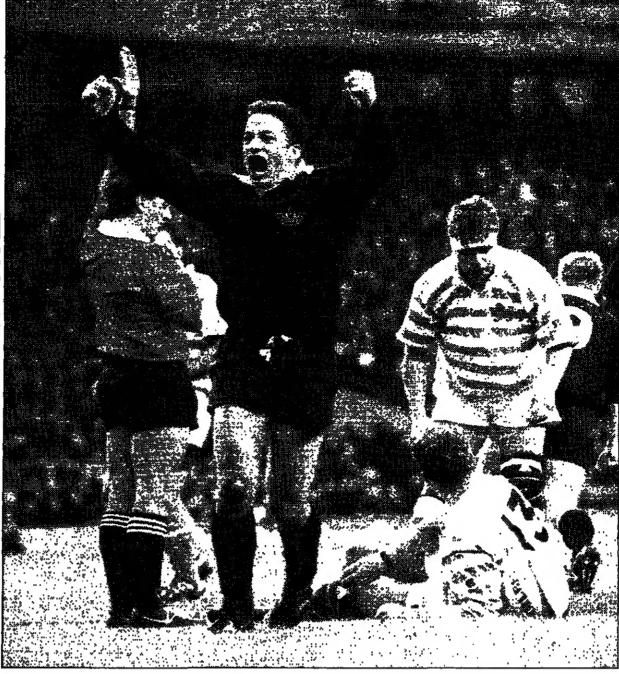
ures in the No. 10 shirt, followed more recently by Tony Ward, Ollie Campbell and Paul Dean.

But since Dean's career ended prematurely with in-jury in the 1989, the proces-sion afterwards seems as long as the Litany of the Saints. David Humphreys of London Irish, will on Saturday become Dean's ninth successor when he runs out at the Parc des Princes. Dean was followed by

Brian Smith, whose return to Australia opened the door for Raiph Keyes, the top scorer in the 1991 World Cup. He was dis-gracefully dropped for Derek McAleese, whose only international appearance was — ominously, per-haps, for Humphreys, his Ballymena and Ulster compatriot — against France in Paris in 1992.

McAleese made way for Peter Russell, before Niall Malone succeeded him against Scotland and France in 1993.

in the defeats of Wales and England and another of the long-service brigade seemed to have arrived. But injury at the start of last season let in Alan McGowan for his only cap to date, before Paul Burke was picked against Scot-land. Since then his rivalry with Elwood has been remi-niscent of the Ward-Camp-



In with a shout . . . Humphreys celebrates his try for Oxford in December's Varsity Match defeat

ast month's A international against Scotland, and for Ulster against New South Wales last week.

But Humphreys has been on the representative scene for some time. He made his debut at A level in 1993. toured Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa with Ireland's development squad that summer, played in the A match against England at Richmond in 1994, and last season played for the Devel-opment XV against the

only representative match:

he was ousted from the A

team by McGowan.
"I didn't play as well last
season as I can but I can't
explain why," says Humphreys, 24 last September.
"Moving to Oxford helped. I've been playing well recently and intend to be positive in Paris."

He will be Ireland's goal kicker there, which may have the supporters weeping into their pints in Kitty O'Shea's Bar in Paris come Saturday evening. Hum-United States. That was his phreys's kicking can be very, very good or simply

But Humphreys is in the team for more than his goal-kicking, though apart from Freddie McLennan's solitary try in 1980 that is the only way Ireland have scored at the Parc des Princes since their initial 1974 visit.

"David is an exciting player who we believe will play the game how we want it played," says Ireland's manager Pat Whelan. The selectors have been

adventurous and bave come up with a new half-

back pairing, Niall Hogan taking over at scrum-half from Christian Saverimutto. Injury and work kept Hogan, who won the last of his five caps against France in the World Cup quarter-final last June, out of the running at the start of the season, and his indi-

viduality should take some of the heat off Humphreys. But he will need a cool Athletics

Sprint record smashed

Stephen Bierley

RANKIE FREDERICKS got his Olympic year off to the swiftest of starts last night by setting a new 100 metres indoor world record of 10.05 in Tampere, Finland. The Barcelona silver medal-

list finished well inside the previous mark set last year by Nigerian Olapede Adeni-ken and established himself as the early favourite for

British supporters of Colin Jackson will have to get used to home thoughts and information from abroad this year, with the Welsh sprint hurdler still in dispute with the British Athletic Federation.

Jackson has yowed to run

in only two domestic meet-ings, the Welsh Games and the Olympic trials, after a row last year with Peter Radford, the executive chairman of BAF

Radford gave Jackson what he interpreted as a dressing down after the world champi-onship trials when Jackson, running over the 100m flat, pulled out with an injury on the Saturday and then com-peted in Italy the next day.

Jackson's injury-plagued season led to him missing the world championships in Gothenburg but on Sunday night the world 110m hurdles record-holder answered ques-tions about his fitness by winning over 60m at the Gunma international indoor meeting in Maebashi, Japan in 7.51, ahead of Mark Crear of the United States in 7.55. His absence from the Brit-

ish scene has given Tony Jarrett, who last Saturday de-feated the world champion Allen Johnson at the Ricoh international in Birmingham, a chance to push himself forward as Britain's No. 1.

But Jarrett has refused to get pulled into any comparison with Jackson. The world son with Jackson. The world championship silver medal winner said at the weekend that he was not interested in getting involved in any de-bate. "All I want to do this season is to go out and do my own thing." own thing."

At the same meeting in Japan Donovan Bailey of Canhead and all the luck going ada, the world 100m gold medal winner, saw off the not been kind to international rookies from from the US in the 60m sprint

Racing

Eider pulls in Aintree hopes

Ron Cox

■HE Tote Eider Handicap Chase, due to be run over four miles and one furlong at Newcastle on Saturday, has all the makings of a valuable Martell Grand National trial with 14 of the 24 entries made yesterday hold-ing the Aintree engagement.

added prize money, there is last month and those placing the £100,000 bonus put up by should be confirmed.

Newcastle's chairman Stan Emerald Storm, trained b the £100,000 bonus put up by Clarke to the connections of Peter Monteith, stayed or any horse which wins the El- strongly to beat Stop The Walder and the Midlands ler, who won next time out. National at Uttoxeter on and looks an improved per-March 16 before finishing in the first four at Amtree. Clarke hopes to be repre-

Clarke hopes to be represented in Safurday's race by Lord Relic, who has been mused back to litness after satstanning a serious injury at Newbury 14 months ago
Captain Dibble could also make his comeback in the Eider, having been brought out of returement following a couple of poor efforts last season.

"He's had arbritis in his joints, but seems to be okay at the moment and we hope to go for the National," said Peter Scudamore, assistant to Captain Dibble's trainer, Nigel Twiston-Dayles.

"All being well he is a captain Dibble to be represented by Mr Teigh at Plumpton, and Leicester today was called off because of waterlogging after an inspection yesterday. Sed-agricult tomorrow is subject to a precautionary inspection this afternoon.

There should be no problems on the all-weather at Lingfield today when it can pay to follow a winning team in the Say It With Roses Stakes.

Bryan Smart, the trainer, and jockey Ray Cochrane struck with Sharp 'N Smart here on Saturday and they are represented by Mr Teigh

"All being well he is a likely runner on Saturday and they are represented by Mr Teigh (2.20), who ran well over the course last season. This is his gel Twiston-Davies.
"All being well he is a likely runner on Saturday and the plan is to give him that more than two races he first outing for the progressive Smart stable. fore Aintree."

The probable Eider favour ite when the Tote publish their prices today will be Le Stregone, who has been one of the best backed horses for the Grand National since th weights were published.
Abercromby Chief, anothe

Elder entry, runs at Kels today in the Moet & Chandor Handicap Chase. He finished in addition to the £35,000 (3.40) at the Borders track

former this season.

Heavy rain caused the cancellation of yesterday's meet-

Swinburn 'out of danger'

ALTER SWINBURN has the Sha Tin course shortly regained consciousness after the start. after his horrific full in Hong Kong on Sunday, but remains sedated in intensive care. The three-times Derby winner's condition was described as "poor" but his life is not in

dancer. Swinburn's mount, the newcomer Liffey River, veered sharply right across



The jockey crashed through

the aluminium running rail and then smashed into an iron stanchion with consider-

Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club's director of racing, defended the course, saying We have had our fair share

of falls, but this was nothing

3.16 Direct Route 3.40 Emerald Storm (nb) 4.10 Final Fling Golog: Soft (beavy in piscent). * Desertes hillstons.

	Pignate in brackets after horse's jump senote days since after HM colleg.
	1.40 KELSO AMBRIAL MEMBERS HOWICE HORBILE 2m ST 110yris 12,868
	101 01 BRIDLE PATH (15) T Easterby 5-11-11
	102 2121-1 SANTA CONCERTO (28) L Lungo 7-11-11
r-	105 264-213 UNICLE KRENY (27) JO Nel! 6-11-11
	1 104 ASSISTED DARKES LUNGO 0-122
th	106 100//-P BRUCE-HAVEN (16) Mas i. Perrati 9-11-5
0	106 OP CHEAP KNECHT (55) Mrs J BoodeRow 5-11-5
	107 CHOPMELL DRAPES J H Johnson 6-11-5P Carberry
οſ	106 IP- HORKIRK (293) # Macroggari 7-11-5
1e	109 058- NANCYS CHOICE (280) J Charles 6-11-5
ie.	110 RISKY BUCK Mrs Alika Russell 6-11-5
TC.	111 2 ROCKETTS CASTLE (28) Mrs S Brameli 6-11-5 Burka
	112 0 SOLSCIETH (34) J Barclay 5-11-5
BE	112 OF TOWERLEY HOLL (24) J Doda's 5-11-6
	114 E34 TRUE SCOT (32) P Cheesbrough 6-11-5
50	196 2-22 DECENT PERRY (50) Mrs M Reveloy 7-11-0 P Mayor
n	198 0 FOXRAW (34) J Oliver 7-11-0 3 Helmon (7) 197 3134 RACHAEL'S DAWRI (71) J Eyre 5-11-3 0 Pears
d	117 2124 RACHAEL'S DAWN (71) J Eyre 5-11-2
	116 0 TESS OTULLY (26) F Murtagh 8-11-6
221	119 CP KRALRICEN (80) N Chamberlain 4-10-3
k	TOP FORM TIPE: Sente Concerto S, Uncle Keeny 7, Tree Scot 8
	Betting evens Senis Concerto, 7-1 Unde Keeny, Sindle Path, Decent Petry, 10-1 True Scot, 12-1 Rocketts
25	Castle, 16-1 Recheel's Dawn, 20-1 Hobburt 18 research
	POSSE CERTIFY - SERVICE PATEL Headway to join leader 4 out, led 2 cel, modern and to wan by 25 from
)y	Highland Way, unth STRONGALONG (IN), in lough and mistake and outpooled from 3 cut, another 51 away
m	3rd (Sedentiels 2mSI), Gd1.
	SANTA CONCENTO: Made all, oron easily by Bi from Cartey Lad (Cartride 2mt), Gd-Siti

seri ROCKNETTS CASTEM Led, but 4 cut, Medded 2 cut, kept on one page, 51 and to Jocks Cross (Cartistic Smith Gd-Sit). isk-sin. 1902 SCOT: Every chance 3 cut, one pase, 4th bin 121 bhd Laretozough (Weiberte, Zins, G AACHARI-15 DANNA hist jump weit på hundra dickal last brie when never aple tr challenge Bolonny Girl (Edinburgh 2m, GG-Fe)

_	
2.1	O ANDREW HAMETON & CO NOVICE CHASE 3m 1 CS,050
201	4-LIFTOU DONOVANS RETER (12) (CD) Mrs L Marshall 15-11-9 D Bentley
202	(0%-00 BECK) FY FOUNTAIN (55) J H Johnson 5-11-5 P Carberry
208	1((S)K-5 BENCHAZI (28) A Thomson 12-11-5 Sincey
204	OCP-PU CANADLOU (1 (20) Mrs. S Brameli 6-11-5 Mr K Wholen (5)
	219-FFD DORLIN CASTLE (28) L Lungo 8-11-5
205	
206	60P/-00 ISLAND RIVER (24) C Partier 9-11-5
207	63451-0 MAROR COURT (31) D Lamb 8-11-5 A Manners (7)
208	60P-365 PARSONS BOY (10) G Richards 7-11-5
209	DP5-335 TICO GOLD (38) P Cheestrough 8-11-5 R Sapple
210	2P2463-0 VILLPON DE LAUGUSTE (28) Mrs S Brancali 9-11-5
211	452F-F5 WHITE DIAMOND (18) Mass L V Russell 6-11-5 B Harding (3)
212	0-FDC35 CARMETTO (31) FI Browns 9-11-0
213	Protect SERECURG GOLD (2) J Barcley 7-11-0
	ORM TIPS: Parsons Boy &, Sacking Gold 7
LOb b	Great Titros Parsons Boy, 7-2 Dorin Caste, 4-1 Serlung Bold. %-1 Value or Laugers. Tico Gold, Hance
Bettie	g 9-1 Parigons Boy, 1-2 portin casses, 4-1 security cons. 4-1 security or cauges a 140 data, assistant.
	In- Add North at state of particular
PORM	CLUSTER - REPORTANT: Behard until some tase headway, around 411 5th of 15 fivehers to The Grey
Monte,	with YULPIN DE LAUGERE (MI) another 111 away 7th and DOPILIN CASTLE (Ivit tailed of 8th (Cavisile
30L U	PSQ.

FORM CLISICE - CHEEF MINISTERS Flow word on Eighburg Fifth Municle less time, tracked loaders, every chance less, can on, but to by Podre Man (Newscasie Str., G.5).

COMERCIAL CHALLENGIA Has sharen establ form to conver theses this section, but bett a best less time when distant of to have Austro (Newscasie Str.) God. G.3nc of 11 to find a Cross with PALACEGATE MINISTER PELLOWS to much, stoped on one pace time? 2nd. 60.3nc of 11 to find a Cross with PALACEGATE MINISTER, III, outproad where anisate is not another 14 away (b). (States by 2m., Gd-Str., COGUI LAMBE Lad until hooded and weakaned cop 4 out. soon taked off life of 11 to 14 to Earlier Times. Alread (Haydock 2m7M, Str.).

CONSTRUCTION DATE OF THE COLOR iron stantanon with consider the consideration of the course in 1981, while in the course was the course of the cour

swerved right, straight

Kelso runners and riders with form guide PORM CURDE - EMERALD STORM: Close op unid led 3 out eleved on well, won by 51 from Stop The Waller, and ASENC ROUNDY CHIEF (rec. 4b) well bin 5th of 11 hinshams (kelso Janit, Col-St) CELLIDH BOY: Not seen out shool April when led helfwdy, kepl on well from 2 out, won by 3t from Son Ot lins

oft 7th	PROFIET LINE: Meakement from 4 out, 4th bin 35W bhd General Wolfe with BARNEY RUBBLE (res 1916) tallad at 7th (Carlasia am Ga-Sill) 1900k W Ran cowl hurdiae lialad, bin 11 by Sculin Mestorly (Sedgelleid Sm.k., Gd)				
4.1	O ADDI	SOM ROSS NOVICE KURDLE 2m 110yris 12,878			
601	23-21	BALHERHOCH (20) T Easterby 7-11-11			
\$ 02	5-03	CHIPPED OUT (78) Martin Technister 6-11-4			
605		COLORFUL ASSISTION (66) Mrs A Sambani 6-11-4 J Radion			
804	20-CP	GENERAL MUCK (39) J Howard Johnson 7-11-4 P Conberry			
605	600.72-	HOME PARK (501) T Dyer 6-11-4 A Linken (7)			
506	Ø6-03	STRICKING SAUED (34) P Montesth 6-11-4			
607	3	TEA SHOCK (148) ? Watterfor 5-11-4 G Castell (6)			
608	00	WAKING (20) J FitzGerald 5-11-4 M Dwyer BriL'S PRIDE P Monteith 5-10-13 R Supple			
609		BILL'S PRIDE P Monteith 5-10-13 R Supple			
810	G-OP	EARLY SURRISE (77) R Inchonaid 5-10-13			
611	F	POLLY STAR (34) L Lungo 6-16-13			
812		PRINCESS MAXINE (14) J O Neul 7-19-13			
612	4	CRYSTAL COST (28) A Whitians 4-10-6			
514	0	DON'T FORGET CURTIS (80) G Moore 4-10-8			
815	90	ELITE JUSTICE (75) N Timbler 4-10-8 A S Smith			
816	0	ENCHANTED COTTAGE (22) M Hammond 4-10-1			
817	6	HOUSE OF DREAMS (76) G Moore 4-10-8			
618	0	TAKE A RIGHT (10) N Chamberlain 4-10-8 J Supple (3)			
819		FINAL FLANG (81) Denys Smith 4-10-3 Bitorey			
		i: Final Pling 8, Balbersoch 7, Chipped Out 6			
Belli	age 5⊷2 Fina	al Flung 11-4 Bathernoch, 8-1 Chapped Old Princets Maxime, 10-1 Crystal Giff, Coloriul			

FORM GUIDE - BALKERNOCK: Led 5 cut held on well, was in, or from Helm Mill (Sedanted 2mW Gd i**sto CUT).** Stayed on well near finish, 3rd of 12, bth 201 to Colonel in Chief (Kelso 2md), Gd-9th, RPUN. **AMBITION**6 No Impression after hitting 2 out, 4th bth 1491 bbd Crown Equatry (Haydoci ISSS MAXIME Stayor on well closury stages, 3rd bin 25t bhd Eurobnir The Rebei (Edinburgh 2m GGF mi GRYSTAL GBFT: Kept on Irom 2 out. 4th oil 14, bin 384 is 3:00s. Cross (Carlisle 2m1), GG-Eit) FRIBAL FILMER Unable to match pace of winner from 2 out, bin 51 by Delity Boy (Meanastis 2m, Gd

Ų	O PORESTERS HARDICAP HURDLE 2m 24 C2,857
1	1)-Fufo WILLS TELMAR (28) (CD) M Tophyoter 8-12-0 B Hemorth (7)
2	2-015-11 ARAGON AYR (3) (CD) P Montents 8-11-12
3	3400-20 SANSOCL (10) A Whillers 10-10-11
4	4(23-60 TWIS FALLS (33) C Moore 5-10-10
5	513-P MERRY MERIAID (150) 8 Madaggari 6-10-6 Q Lee (3)
6	452212 STASH THE CASH (3) 7 Dref 5-10-0 A Dobbis
	TOPE TIPS: Stack Tipe Cook 8, Senseol 7
	ng; 12-8 Stash The Cash, 2-1 Aragon Ayr, 7-1 Sansool, Two Falls, 8-7 Wills Teimar, 16-1 Memors of recovers
H	GUEDE - WILLS TELMAR: Close up umul weakened app 3 out. 451 7th to Fearless Wonder (Carligle

zmat, dat sin ARACON AYR: Led run-in, kept on we'l under preseure, bi Nodiorn Wonder 11 (Ayr 25m, Gd) TWIN FALLER Always behind, 33 9th of 12 timshers to Frickley (Richhelby 2m, Gd-Still STASH THE CASH: Risiden cleur 2 out, headed and no evira lest 100ycs, bin \$1 by Bark o 18te (Ayr 2m, Gd)

HEREFORD 2.00 (2m of 110yds Hdio): 1, TOUTE BAGABLE, D Bridgweiter (4-1): 2, Rol din Nard (9-4 lay): 3, Kingswood Missoor (50-1): 16 ran. 25 hd. (M Pipe) Tote (5.40 1.70, C.180 (5.50 Dual F. 27.30, CSF. E14 14, Trio £108 20.

6.00 (2m 1f Hele): 1, FORESTAL, Mr., Jukes IB-1), 2, Northern Slager (16-11: 2, Upstard's Fable (6-1) 3-1 lay Professoo Picker. 14 ran 5.1 (5 Grafiths) Tote. 05-90 17.70, 19-90, 52 40, Dual F. 158 20, CSF 123 75, Tricast 1766 39 NR Register. SOUTHWELL

Lingfield (A.W. Flat)

2.20 MR TEIGH (nep)

8.20 Rainbew Top 3.50 Dunmer Gold 4.20 Call No Albi

1.50 SEALED WITH A LOVING KISS HANDIGAP (DIV I) 🖦 EX.208 1 — OU SEALED WITH A LOYSIC RISE HAMDICAP (DIV) he E2,
1 50000— SHESHEF (221) I hits 5—10.
2 CS010— GUEST ALLIANCE (60) (CD) A Moore 4—8 6.
3 7:35— NAMASTE (463) R Hoad 6—4.
4 050—64 ROYAL PRENT (6) While 7—9-2.
5 06—54 CALLORESCY (26) D O Brien 4—12.
6 44—65 TREMEDISTO (13) Cap J Wisson 6—12.
7 7:06—4 ALL THE JOYS (47) (CS) C CYST 5—12.
9 0C: 1—0 FULL OF TRICKS (14) J Bridger 8—7-11.
TOP FURN TRICK ALL THE JOYS B, Royal Print, 7, Genet Alliance 6.
1895 Shellowed Care 4.8 10.1 Wester 4.1 (S. Charlescher, Research 1.4) Research
1895: Shellered Cove 4 B 16 J Wesser 4-1 (K Complete Betting: 8-4 She/iii 11-4 Ali The Joys, 8-2 Royal Print, 6-1 Quest Alliance, 8-1 Cationescy, 10-1 Tremendisto 16-1 Namasis, 50-1 Lady Woodstock, Pull Of Trests. 9 remeals.

2.20 SAY IT WITH ROSES LIMITED STAKES 1m (2,505 1 000-10: HAMD OF STRAW (17) (D) P Merithy 4-9-3
2 03500-0 AMSAL BOY (14) Miss Gay Kellinay 4-9-0
3 03500-0 AMSAL BOY (14) Miss Gay Kellinay 4-9-0
4 0-5001 MAMABAR (8) (D) M Polylase 4-9-0
5 4054-0 MTTEIGH (227) B Smart 4-9-0
5 4054-0 MTTEIGH (227) B Smart 4-9-0
7 14755-6 SHUTTLECOCK (39) (D) Miss N Mecadey 5-9-0
8 300-402 DORT GET CAUGHT (7) JL Hamb 4-9-9 A Chek 7

TOP FORM TIPS: Manubar 8, Mr Teigh 7, Apollo Red 6 1996: Kintwyn 6 9 0 D Harrison 11-1 (C Glosy) 8 ran Betzing: 11-4 Don't Get Caught, 7-2 Monatter 4-1 Mr Targh, 7-1 Hand Of Straw, Occiom, 8-1 Apolio Red, 14-1 Shuffecork, 25-1 Annal Roy 2.50 young love claiming stakes syo in 21 (2,52). 20-0 GENERAL HEBERY (23) A Moore 9-5 241-49 APARTHENTS ABROAD (22) (C) F McAuthe 8-4 623-121 ROWLANDSONS CHARM (24) (C) GL Moore 9-4 1500-42 MINTI FRANCHSE (21) B GMby 8-1 D-5 ORDABIED (24) T George 1-12

TOP FORM TIPS: Rowlandsons Charms S. America 1995: Star Fighter 8 8 Emma O'gortsen 3-1 (W O'German) 10 ran Betting: 4-5 Roxtantsons Charm 7-2 Liulo Francheo, Apartments Abroad, 12-1 Ordained, 33-1 General Henry 3.20 CASAHOVA CONDITIONS STAKES 1111 21 CLASS 411-C2 EASY CHOICE (2) (C) P Atracel 4-10-1
24-341 PRINCE DANZIG (12) (CD) P Muster Smith 5-10-1
RABIBOW TOP (40) (CD) W Hapgas 4-9-12
40-500- DANAGE PLACE (28) (C) T Neugriton 5-9-7
010124- QUALITY (75) (C) W O Gorman 5-8-9 J Wanter 5 R Cochrane 2 T Asidoy (7) 4

6 8334-1 D0990 (14) (CD) C Bratain 3-8-6 7 21- EXPEDITIOUS WAY (GR) (158) R Charlon 3-8-6 TOP FORM TIPS: Rainbow Top 8, Diego 7 1995: Wild Rice 3 8 4 W Woods 6-4 (G Wragg) 6 rps Bettings 7-4 Rambow Top 7-2 Diego 5-1 Expeditions Way, 6-1 Prince Canzig, Easy Choice, 8-1 Quality, 25-1 Orange Place

3.50 CUPID REDIAN AUCTION MAIPEN STAKES 270 61 62,483

1 2 DUMMER COLF TIME (20) Lord Hustingdon 9-0

2 00-1 GENERAL HAVEN (8) 7 Naugradon 9-0

3 0500-25 JERNEL VERTHORS (24) J Bridger 9-0

4 0 CHEST KATA (24) C ENER 9-8

5 43-650 REPINICTON (6) W Marr 8-9 TOP FURIN TIPS: Dunmer Golf Time 9, General Flavor 7

1 722-313 DIATERAA (10) (CD) R O'Sollings 9-9-10 D Griffiths (B) 2 344461- ELBURG (2003) R Hoad 6-9-7 R Cochrane 4-9 3 D400-25 DISCORSI (6) Mess Gay Kelloway 4-9-4 A Clark 1 4 200-0-6 SIR THOMAS EMECANA (21) (CD) S Dor 8-9-4 A Clark 1 5 500007- AGAINST THE CLOCK (120) J Mullim 4-9-11 J Claims 2 6 12274-4 CALL ME ALBI (29) 61 L Moore 5-8-3 T Adding (7) 8-7 7 00-1254 WOTTARHAMELES (10) (CD) L Montague Half 5-8-6 S Senders 7 8 1/355-50 OH SO HANDY (21) R Curte 8-7-10 - 8-8 1/355-50 OH SO HANDY (21) R Curte 8-7-10 - 9-8 1/355-50 OH SO HANDY (21) R CURTE 8-8 1/355-50 OH SO HAN	4.2	O SEALED WITH A LOVING KISS HANDICAP (DIV E) 2m 52,28	18
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4.50 ST. VALENTINE'S HANDICAP BY C3,469

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Venables

put back

-NGLAND's European Championship cause was given a huge boost yesterday when Terry Vena-bles, with help from the Foot-

ball Association, succeeded in having a High Court case ad-

journed to avoid it interfering

with his preparation for this summer's tournament.
The civil action, in which

the Department of Trade and Industry is seeking to ban the

England coach from acting as

a company director for up to

15 years, was put back until July 15 — two weeks after the

The adjournment applica

tion was granted after Mr Registrar Rawson read a let-

ter from the FA's chief execu tive Graham Kelly pleading for Venables to be given a

chance to get on with his job.
A criminal charge brought
by the DTI against Venables'
business associate Eddie

Ashby is also unlikely to be fully beard until after Euro '96.

It is alleged that Ashby was involved in the management

tenham Hotspur PLC, Tottenham Hotspur Football and Athletic Club and Scribes West, Venables' nightclub — while an undischarged bank-

of certain companies

Euro '96 final.

court

Martin Thorpe

Coaching job tempts Dane

Molby eyes a move to Swansea

JAN MOLBY will decide later this week whether or not to abandon his seemingly futile battle to re-establish himself at Liverpool.

The Danish International midfielder is seriously considering swopping aristocrats for artisans by joining the ailing Welsh club, Swansea City. Although the 32-year-old Molby is in no great hurry to abandon his adopted northwest. Swansea have not only made him a financial offer he is finding difficult to refuse but also provided him with a route into

Kevin Cullis, who became Swansea's fourth manager Swanses a fourth manager this season when he was ap-pointed last week, has invited Molby to take up the post of player-coach at the Vetch

Molby travelled to South Wales at the weekend and was one of 4.452 people who witnessed the 1-0 defeat by the Second Division leaders

Swindon Town.
"I have spoken to Swanse and I am happy with what I have heard from them, although nothing has yet been agreed," Molby said

yesterday. He has promised Swansea a decision on Friday when their new chairman, Michael Thompson, officially picks up the reins of a club which may well be playing in the Third

"I would like to think he would be in my side for our tic Cullis,

Since it became clear he was surplus to requirements at Anfield, Molby has been courted by several clubs, including Birmingham City, Tranmere Rovers, Norwich City and Barnsley. One of the most cultured

footballers of his generation, Molby joined Liverpool from Ajax for £575,000 in 1984 and he has recently been awarded a long-service testimonial by the Merseyside club.

Jamie Redknapp will push his claims for a recall to the Liverpool team which will contest an FA Cup fourthround tie at Shrewsbury on Sunday by turning out in a reserve fixture at Stoke

midfielder has not played senior football since damaging a hamstring while playing ago. Redknapp will be in good

company at the Victoria Ground tonight. Also included in a Liverpool reserve side conservatively valued at £15 million will be Ian Rush, Neil Ruddock and Steve

Mark Ward, Birminghan City's player-coach, is ex-pected to join Oldham on a free transfer after being told



New-look England . . . Shearer sports the latest second strip (indigo and white) while Flowers dons the goalkeeping jersey (cherry with lime flashes)

Holmes, who has been on loan at The Hawthorns for the past into a malicious footballer. month. Alan Shearer yesterday de-

The Blackburn striker was cautioned - and widely con-West Bromwich have nied accusations that his deagreed an £80,000 fee with sire to increase his already an unsavoury challenge on don't intend to start now." he Everton for the defender Paul prodigious strike rate had Manchester United's goal-said. "I was carried into Peter

keeper Peter Schmeichel in by my momentum; I didn't the Premiership game at Old mean to burt him." Shearer Trafford.
"I am not in any way mali-

was speaking at the unveiling of England's new second strip cious, I never have been and don't intend to start now," he said. "I was carried into Peter "You never know, I might

The Leeds captain Gary McAllister was struck by a

missile as he prepared to take a corner but was unhurt and

appeared to laugh off the inci-

dent. But the referee Keith Cooper has told the PA that

thrown on to the pitch and that he was also handed a

snooker ball by a linesman.

new Umbro strip. He last scored for England in the 2-0 victory over the United States at Wembley in September,

will be in court on Friday, but is likely to be adjourned until a future date beyond July.

Ashby is pleading not guilty.

The Venables case relates to his conduct as a director of

Tottenham Hotpsur PLC, Tottenham FAAC, Edennote and Scribes West. Mark Cunningham, representing the DTI, revealed there were 19 charges of "unfitness" against Venables. The former Spurs chief executive denies

the charges. The England coach also has other court cases pending. On Monday he begins suing an FA councillor and former business partner Paul Kirby over a business deal.

After Euro '96 Venables will be in court to sue his former solicitor Brain Pugler for negligence, with Fugler counter claiming for £310,000 in legal fees. In October Venables will defend the libel action brought by the Tottenham chairman Alan Sugar.

Venables has already said he will resign as England coach after Euro '96 in order to give himself more time to fight these cases. They will now be joined by the DTI case which, though adjourned until July, is not expected to be heard in full until next

The FA's search for a sucwith only Glenn Hoddle of the leading candidates refusing publicly to rule himself out. With Kevin Keegan, Bryan Robson and Gerry Francis saying they do not want the job, the sub-committee trying to find a replacement for Venables would appear to have a thankless task.

The lack of candidates has recently led to a bandwagon of opinion urging the FA to try and persuade Venables to

stay. However, Kelly ruled this

now is any more uncertainty. It is now for us to find a new man. Besides. I am well aware of Terry's thoughts on the matter. The idea of getting him to change his mind is not

Whalley 'trampling' angers Gradi as he gets set for tonight's FA Cup fourth-round replay

Crewe send FA tale of the tape

Dario Gradi is to send the Football Association a video showing an incident during the 1-0 win at Burnley on Saturday in which his midfielder Gareth Whalley suffered a broken nose and a facial wound, which needed

"Someone burled him then trod on him," said Gradi. "We thought about taking legal action but have discounted that as the whole thing is not clear enough on the video. But we will send copies to the FA and the referee assessors. We would just like them to see what they missed.

"I don't blame the referee for missing the trampling. We also missed it from the touch-line. The first I knew of it was when the lad got up with his face covered in blood. But the players were instantly aware of it, which you can see from their angry reactions."

The 23-year-old Whalley, a product of Crewe's successful youth system, will miss tonight's FA Cup fourthround replay against South-

Crewe have been waiting 35 years to repeat their last FA Cup victory over a top-flight side at Gresty Road. In 1961, Chelsea had the Sillett brothers, Jimmy Greaves and John Mortimore yet lost a third-round tie at Crewe 2-1. Mortimore is now one of the Southampton manager Dave Merrington's assistants

The chances of an upset have been enhanced by tor-

HE Crewe manager | rential rain which will make the pitch a quagmire. But Gradi said: "We had a less than 50-50 chance for the original game at The Dell, and that's still the case. They are still a Premierahip side and we are still in division two." Matthew Le Tissier has but Barry Venison is out with a, pulled hamstring. The Wales international David Hughes has been added to

Saints' squad.

Middlesbrough will be without Juninho for their replay with Wimbledon. The Brazilian is returning to South America for the Olympic qualifying tournament which will keep him out of the fifth-round tie against Huddersfield, if Middlesbrough go through. plus Premiership games with

Coventry and Everton.
The Republic of Ireland
Under-21 international
winger Alan Moore is available for Boro after completing a three-match ban, but the midflelder Phil Stamp is out with calf trouble.

Nottingham Forest will still be without their inspirational captain Stuart Pearce for their replay at Oxford. But door to calamitous Ian Woan could be back in ence from Brussels. against Notts County. The winners meet another of Mountfield's former clubs. Aston Villa.

Middlesbrough ask for police help

spat at Terry McDermott after Saturday's match at the Riverside Stadium. Newcastle United's assis-

Derby County

Hudd. Town

MIDDLESBROUGH have dent happened. Middles brough have promised that them identify the fan who the culprit will have him brough have promised that the culprit will have his season ticket confiscated.
"It was disgusting," said McDermott, "The stewards didn't do anything. I have tant manager was signing never been spat at whilst autographs when the inci-

Teamtalk The Independent News and Reports Service

Call 0891 33 77+ Arsonal 06 Ipswich Town 19 Sheffield United Aston Villa 11 Leeds United 03 Sheffield Wed. 14 34 Loicester City 35 Southhampton 20 21 Liverpool 30 Blackburn 04 Stoke City 24 Man. United Tottenham Hot. Burnley 31 Middlesbrough 23 West Ham 08 Millwall Chelsea Wimbledon 26 Coventry City 17 Newcastle Ltd 16 Wolves 37

28 Norwich City

18 Celtic

Gascoigne faces trial by photograph photographed — tongue and | to the pitch during Sunday's middle finger of the left hand | Coca-Cola Cup semi-final de-

Patrick Glenn

AUL GASCOIGNE is almost certain to become the first man in Scottish football to be charged with bringing the game into disrepute on the evidence of a newspaper photograph.

Gascoigne and his manager Walter Smith are expected to be discussed at next Tuesday's meeting of the Scottish FA's general purposes com-mittee, from which their res-pective cases may be referred to the disciplinary committee. Gascoigne has appeared in several papers since Sunday making a rude gesture while celebrating Rangers' second goal against Motherwell with his team-mate Alan McLarenSmith is likely to be charged for criticism of the referee Willie Young, who cautioned Gascoigne during the match. It was the England midfielder's ninth booking of the season and his third in successive games. Gascoigne made a hostile gesture towards Chris McCart, the Motherwell defender — raising his fists under his nose after the latter had brought down the Rangers player to

concede the penalty from which McCoist scored the Ibrox side's winning goal.

Smith called the yellow card "ludicrous" and said it was "mysterious" that Gas-coigne should continually be booked for what he saw as

extended in the direction of an unseen target — was not seen by the referee. It is, however, the one he could be sum-moned to explain. "Basically the committee look at two areas: direct or indirect criticism of officials

bring the game into disre-pute," said an SFA spokesman. "We have never dealt with a player on the evidence of a days after the FA found Bir-newspaper photograph be-mingham guilty of misconfore, because still photos can

and actions which could

• Birmingham City may be

The incidents came nine

ber 4. ● The former Italian internaordered to play a game behind of the former Italian interna-closed doors after it was revealed that coins and a meeting with the Grimsby

mingham guilty of miscon-duct following their game against Millwall on Novem-



Gascoigne . . . 'gesture'

following a dressing-room fracas between the two after Sat-urday's 3-2 defeat at Luton. The player was taken to a hos-pital and treated for an

'tip of iceberg' | Mullen quits Burnley after 'attacks on family'

John Duncan

HE Bosman ruling may be the tip of a legislative iceberg for European football, the Premier League told a Uefa consultation meeting of 10 countries in Windsor yesterday. The meeting also heard that if Uefa failed to act quickly to accept the judgment and manage its implementation, it could open the door to calamitous interfer-

midfield if he passes a fitness test on a hamstring injury.
Walsali's 33-year-old Derek Mountfield, an FA Cup winner with Everton, also faces a test, on the ankle he injured meeting with the FA's Grant midfield if he passes a fitness test on the ankle he injured meeting with the FA's Grant midfield if he passes a fitness test on a hamstring injury.

"The time has gone when we could hope that it would all go away," said Rick Parry, the Premier League chief extension on the ankle he injured in the passes a fitness test on a hamstring injury. ham Kelly as English representatives. The clock is ticking, the players are told that the organised, the agents are or-

Results

Tennis

Athletics

Baskethall HEA ALL-STAR GAME (San East 129, West 118.

Bowls

10

Mansfield v Huddenshold Avon Insurance Combination

Bahaman J. Poru 2. BLARSBILLE CPEDIX First round: T Car-bonell (Spi b) C-U Stoob (Gar) 6-3, 6-1; A Yohana (Flora) bi G Carraz (Fr) 4-6, 7-5,

ATTICES
TORYO MARATHON: (Japanese unless
stated) 1 V Lima (81 2m émin 30uec, 2 A
Prito (Por) 206.38: 3, A Auzdedo (Sp)
206.46: 4 K. http: 208.50: 5 S Casio
210.10: 6, 5 Kawashima 2 10.41.
(Masbaram Japan) Mem 60mm 1, D Barley
(Car) 6 56spec. 200mm 1, K Laife (IUS)
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jantah 1, K Stronto-Thompson (US) 8.22m.
Wamene 80mm 1. C Classy (US) 7.18.
400mn 1, S Portor (US) 82.29.

CHURCHELL INSURANCE WORLD IN-DOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS (Preside) Paken First round S Olddy/R Brussey (NZ) bt I McChire/N Graham (rg) 7-6, 7-4.

ganised; if we are not careful the only people not ready will be the clubs." To that end the meeting

recommended a working party involving clubs and national leagues be set up by Uefa — the first time Uefa would have formally involved them in decision-making.

At yesterday's meeting several associations pressed Uefa for a delay in having to implement the Bosman ruling which guarantees freedom of movement without transfer

fees between European Union countries for EU players out of contract. "We think the answer will be no," said Parry. The Premier League abandoned its limits on EU nationals as soon as Bosman was announced, having been told that the ruling made

Cricket

Hockey

13-16, J. Co

ice Hockey

CASTLE CUP: Cape Town: Western Province 268 and 230 (8 Koenig 55, Horan 4-43) Border 260 and 196 (P Stydom 69, Pringle 5-67) Wastern Province won by 92 runs, Jehannesburgs Boland 206 and 193 (A Kuiper 51 Kickerd 4-26) Transvad 365 and 27-1 Transvad won by nine wickets. Restaular Newtown 271 Batel 57-6. No.

on ranger 51' Kidwofi 4-36) Transvaal 38' and 27'-1 Transvaal with by nine victoria. Preteria Northerns 213' Natel 167-6. No play rain Makib drewn. Bloomstowneis. Eastern Province 331 and 275-6 0' Amm 76, D Galleghan 55, M Bearnish 52', Free State 317 and 172-4 (G Llobenburg 55) Malch drawn.

State 317 and 172-4 (G Liebenburg SS)
Malch drawn.
RED STRIPFI CUPP Third record, third
drap Bridgentewer Lesward Islands 446
and 94-4 Berbasics 185 and 342 iA Gra60% 115. S Armstrong 93. V Drakes 50,
Wookos 4-34) Lesward telands won by
four encluss Peers of Speller Trinklad and
Tobago 40s. Jamuses 177 (Dharva) 5-50;
and 142 (L Whitens SS, Dharva) 6-53
and 142 (L Whitens SS, Dharva) 6-67
Trinklad and Tobago won by an lunings
and 94 runs, Roseau, Dominica: Windward Islands 234 and 278 (D James) 6-7, R
Lewis 51nol. Guyane 125 and 29-1.

WELSH WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Newlown 0. Pontypride 3 Standays: 1. Swenson 13-24: 2. Newlow

Neither was an exemption clause for sport from Euro-pean law likely, said Parry. "I feel very sceptical that the EU will exempt football from its Article 48 on freedom of movement of workers be cause it is the bedrock of the EU. But if particular questions are asked targeting par-ticular areas then that may have a realistic chance of success. However, the idea of a blanket exemption for sport is

Parry warned that the EU and national states were gear-ing up to assault other areas of football's business. The Office of Fair Trading recently announced an inves-tigation into the Premiership TV deal as a possible carte and its German counterpart is doing the same with the

Montroal (27-22-6-175-189-59), 3, Hartford (23-25-6-157-171-52). Atlantic Divisions 1, NY Pangers (33-13-19-265-155-76); 2, Florida (23-15-7-189-143-65). Western Conference Control Students - 1 Debugs - 1 Debu

phta (27-10-11-189-143-65). Western Conference Central Divisions 1. Detroit (18-19-4193-113-80), 2. Chicago (30-16-11-198-152-71); 2. Toronto (23-23-10-163-164-50) Pacific Divisions 1. Cotorado (30-16-10-18-157-70); 2. Vancouver (23-21-14-189-198-54); 3. Calgary (30-25-11-161-171-510)

Shooting

Alpine Skiing

Fixtures

(7 30 unious stated)

FA CUP: Fourth ro (7.45) Fourth-roun

(7.45) Fourth-round regularys: Wymbledon v Middlesbrough (7.45); Cadard Uld v Notim Forst (7.45); Cadard Uld v Notim Forst (7.45); Care v Southampton. BADSLEGGH LEAGUER First Divisions Shell Uld v Millwall (7.45). Socond Divisions Blackpool v Swanson, Stockport v Wiresham, Bristol C v Strenschusy (7.45); Third Divisions Cambridge Uld v Fullham (7.45), Gillingham v Barnet (7.45); Lincoln v Hervetord: Flochisto v Burnet Easter v

y Heystoric Rochtale v Bury, Exhiter v Heystoric Rochtale v Bury, Exhiter v Marsfold (7.45).

TENNISHT'S SCOTTISH CUP: Third rounds Greenach Marton v Mangase.

Division Martine Likebuth Premier Division Martine Martine Premier Division Martine Martine Premier Control of Control V Aberdoon.

Soccer

absurd."

'attacks on family'

DURNLEY yesterday
Departed company with
their manager Jimmy Mullen in the wake of their
fourth successive Second
Division defeat.
Mullen was the target of
them
Mullen wa

Mullen was the target of a protest by a section of the 9,153 Turf Moor crowd during Saturday's 1-0 loss at home to Crewe. Later, he and his family reportedly suffered verbal and physical abuse away from the

ground. The former Blackpool and Cardiff manager took charge at Burnley in October, 1991 and guided them to promotion from the old fourth Division as champi ons that season. Mullen then steered

Burnley into the First Division in 1994, but they were relegated the next season.

NCS LEAGUE: Premier Division: Sorham Wood v Wallon & Hersham (7.45 Grays v Hilchin (7.45). First Dhiston Aldershot To v Tooling & Milcham Un Berkhamsted To v Theme Uld; Malde

NTIES LEAGUE Flore Division

RN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE This of Licent has a superior of the control of the

Bristol MF v Bridport, Mangatzheli Backwell Utd; Odd Down Ath v Chip

Second Division: Plymouth v Birms (Z.D), Torquay v Bath (7 0). IRUSN LEAGUE: Promier Div

SRU TENNENTS CHAMPIONSHIP

Rugby Union

back, which left them 11th. John King's job at Tran-mere is also threatened

after a group of fans demanded the manager's dismissal following the 3-1
home defeat by Barnsley.
The chairman Frank
Corfe yesterday gave King
a vote of confidence. "We
are listening to what our
supporters have to say, but
a good manager does not

However, Kelly ruled this
out, saying: "I am well aware
of what people have been suggesting but it is not something we will consider. The
reconsider is not on the
agenda of the five-man subcommittee.

"The last thing we want
now is any more uncertainty. a good manager does not become a bad one over-night," he said. King said: "I am a fighter

and I will stick it out. I will still be here when others have gone."

Biggar, Edinburgh Wnors v Preston Lodge West String County v Glasgow Acads. CLARS: 7:05 Cardi v Swansea; Ponty-pool v Penarth; S Wales Police v Exchanged. WIRLI MICHIER LEAGUE: Pool As Aber-Cytica v Pontypool (7.0). Pool Dr Bony-maen v Tondu (7 in.

Hockey ice Hockey

Pools Forecast

VAUXHALL CON

BEAZER HO 54 Queen of 8th SCOTTEN TH

Let the international lottery roll

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T BEGAN when a washed-out Ashes Test in Melbourne a quarter of a century ago was replaced by a limited overs match. Four years later the first World Cup was staged in England; early tomorrow Mike Atherton's side and New Zealand play the opening game of the sixth tournament.

It heralds the start of a five-week bonanza that incorpo-rates 37 matches culminating in the final on March 17 be-neath the floodlights of the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore, if they are installed in time.

With 12 competing nations, nine Test playing countries and three Associates (who qualified by virtue of the ICC Trophy) this is the biggest tournament yet. It also involves the most convoluted

David Irvine in Paris

in November 1994.

is in far better physi-cal shape than she was when she made her

first, brief comeback in Phila-delphia 15 months ago. So says the German player Anke Huber who defeated Capriati in the only match she played

Capriati's return to the

WTA Tour here in the indoor

event at the Coubertin sta-

dium tonight has been

warmly welcomed by her yesterday Huber, the run-

ner-up at the Australian Open to Monica Seles, practised for

40 minutes with the 19-year

old American. Huber said later that Capriati was "fitter.

more relaxed and hitting the

ball really well and very

That sounded like the Ca-

priati whose uninhibited hit-ting took her to No. 6 in the

world as a 15-year-old and, at

16, to an Olympic gold medal in Barcelona at Steffi Graf's

expense.

Practice and competition are very different disciplines.

however, and in Sobine Appelmans, the left-handed Bel-

and exhausting three-week ably, though, the records process to whittle the dozen down to eight quarter final-ists, at which point things

begin in earnest.
Favourites do not seem to win. It is, as the Australian captain Mark Taylor has said, not about who has the best side on paper but who has the force with them during a tournement. The chances of English suc-

cess ought not to be dimin-ished by the recent perfor-mances in South Africa. where a ridiculous number of matches came in the wake of a competitive Test series, with the team long since ready for the return home. They are a side capable of scaling the heights or plumbing the depths, beating Australia one day only to lose to Zimbabwe the next.

Capriati shapes

up well for return

find someone capable of test-

ing her game, temperament and resolve to the full. Should

Capriati survive, she could play Huber in the quarter-finals.

Huber would not be drawn into predicting Capriati's likely progress. Nor would Capriati's father Stefano. "She's been working hard for

four months now and feels good in herself," he said. "But it really doesn't matter if she

makes an impact or not. She's

here to play well of course but

the result is not important. She's not really expecting

The expectations of Capria-ti's father were seen by many

as one of the main reasons for

the joy being extinguished from his daughter's life and

By 1993 the pressures on her had become intolerable

and after losing to Leila Meskhi at the US Open that August she walked away from

the game — and into a very different lifestyle which took

her to court appearances and drug rehabilitation centres.

Capriati was clearly not ready to return in Philadel-

Wembley Arena and hopes to

Morrison, meanwhile, has returned to his native Okla-

homa and his trainer Tom

world, Capriati could tonight | could ever be. Jim Fuhse, the

show that although they have never won the tournament they have reached three of the last four finals, so they

must do something right.
To do so again, however,
will require inspiration
rather than mere efficiency: from the batting, which can be extremely comfortable until it collapses; from the bowlers such as Dominic Cork and Darren Gough; and from Mike Atherton, whose captaincy is often too stodgy for a game where strategy can go out of the window. Of those other teams from outside the sub-continent, the

best chances seem to rest with Australia and South Afpreparation of other teams appear as outmoded as loga-rithmic tables are to comput-Consistency is not an ers. West Indies cricket is in English virtue. Unquestion too much turmoil at present,

WTA's director of public rela-

tions and a close friend of the player, said it was at last

year's US Open that he had detected a real desire in Capriati to return to the

"Every time I've talked to her since she has been more

and more upbeat and eager to get back," he said. "I was in Philadelphia and she wasn't

right then. Her whole attitude

and demeanour are different

now. She's a much happier

joined the tour in 1990 she had the potential to be the greatest player ever on the women's side. It's good that

Despite more than two lost years Capristi can look back on a formidable list of

achievements: in her Olym-pic gold medal; in the semi-final appearance at her first

Grand Slam (she was the

youngest ever); and in becoming the youngest player ever

"The game needs her," said Seles recently. Hopefully she will start fulfilling that need

tonight.
Tim Hemman reached his

highest world ranking yesterday when the computer rat-ings put him at No. 78.

to be ranked in the top 10.

person. I think when

omen's tour.

and they more than most have been reluctant to accept the Asian way of touring life. Australia are uncompro misingly tough, well led, have depth and brilliance to their batting, class bowlers, all-rounders — Steve Waugh rather than Brian McMillan

there is no tomorrow. Yet there remain doubts, if only because for some while, and nothing to do with the sit-uation in Colombo, they have appeared less than keen to go to the sub-continent. With death threats, cranky or otherwise, they cannot but be

has to be the best all-rounder in the game — and field like

With South Africa, focusing is not the issue. Instead, they need to have discovered why record in that part of the world and ensure that their

and fielders in the business. If Cronje, Kallis or Cullinan, say, has a good tournament they will be hard to beat.

Sri Lanka, vastly improved, are not to be discounted and have been handed a gift of four points that might help secure them a less arduous quarter-final. It is from India and Pakistan, however, that the winner might emerge.
India's unexpected victory

at Lord's in 1983 showed what is possible and they might have become the first home winners in 1987 had not a one-



tility in such as Prabhakar. an underrated player. Another Calcutts final and they might be the bet. But Lahore and all that would

Instead, Pakistan could become the first team since West Indies to retain the trophy and the first to win at home. Predictable only in

a leg-spinner of the highes

right batsmen led by Inzamam-ul-Haq. They could be the team to beat.

The ICC has given the all-clear to the Sri Lankan Muttiah Muralitharan's bowling action following the recent tour of Australia, where he was accused of "chucking".

Malcolm Marshall bowed out of the first-class game quietly yesterday, sitting in the Centurion Park changing rooms as the rain washed out Natal's chances of defeating Northern Transvaal and thereby retaining South Afri**Motor Racing**

Villeneuve warms to challenge

Alan Henry in Estoril on the Williams drivers seeking to emulate their fathers

ACQUES Villeneuve was left to kick his heels in the pit lane here in Portugal yesterday while Damon Hill completed the first exploratory shakedown at the wheel of the new Williams-Renault FW18. The car the English man hopes will enable Englishman hopes will enable him to emulate his late father Graham and finally win a world championship. Yet Hill is sufficiently

shrewd to appreciate that he will need to exploit every fractional advantage to emerge with the title. Moreover, it will not simply be a question of defeating the likes of Michael Schumacher's Ferrari and the Benetton-Renaults of Jean Alesi and Gerhard Berger. Some of his strongest competition could come from the second

For a driver who has yet to compete in a world champion-ship grand prix, the mood of expectancy surrounding Vileneuve's prospects is unprecedented in Formula One. Significantly, he will make his debut for a team who start every season prepared to allow both drivers to race one another as much as their

The 24-year-old French Ca-nadian, who has an IndyCar championship and victory in last year's Indy 500 to his credit. seems unfazed about the FI challenge ahead of him and admits that he will be going all out to win the world

championship.
Like Hill, motor racing is in Villeneuve's genes. His most spectacular performers up to his death at the wheel of works Ferrari practising for the 1982 Belgian Grand Prix. And like his father, he is not prepared to play second

"No," said Villeneuve firmly, "I'm racing because I want to win. I am a competitive person in all I do; of course I want to beat everybody, that is what's driving me. I know I have a lot to learn, but I would certainly enjoy winning.

car and the Renault V10 a winning engine. The car and team is there to win, so all I've got to concentrate on is doing my job."

The novice is in no doubt as to how he will respond to rough house tactics. "If someone plays a stupid game then you have to play it back, otherwise they will walk all over you," he said. That said, Villeneuve is guarding against over-confi-

dence. Although he has completed more than 9,000 miles in testing since first getting into an F1 car last August, he realises that his first race, in Australia on March 10, will not be a pushover.

His team, moreover, believe Villeneuve will win "at least a couple of races" this season. Such confidence is gratifying, but privately he will start the first round of the 16-race

championship believing he has as good a chance as any. The Williams FW18 is an evolutionary car developed from last year's highly com-petitive FW17B which carried Hill and David Coulthard to a The Australian pair, Kel-vin Kerkow and Ian Schu-back, survived an early saw them home. total of five grand prix victories last season. With Schumacher at Fer-

rari and Coulthard switching to McLaren-Mercedes, Hill in theory starts as title favour-ite. Trouble is, nobody has

their unpredictability, they can self-destruct in a twin-kling. But there is evidence to suggest that under Wasim Akoff innings of brilliance from Graham Gooch denied them passage to a Calcutta final. Their fielding can be wretched and they miss the all-round skills of Kapil Dev ram's flerce leadership there is some stability now. If their fielding can be dismal they do have in Wasim and Wagar Younis the most clinical finishers in the game, now, but have some superb batsmen in Tendulkar, Azharca's Castle Cup. Western Province took the title. uddin and Kambli, a terrific unexceptional batting can

Carpet capers . . . Australia's Ian Schuback bowling along at the World Indoor Championships PHOTOGRAPH DENIS THORPE

New Zealand pair put an early squeeze on eighth seeds

Morrison HIV scare for Lewis

however. and in Sabine Appelmans, the left-handed Belgian who is ranked 25 in the she feels as prepared as she

Don Beet

Boxing

ENNOX LEWIS, the former World Boxing Counweil heavyweight champion, has been advised to take an Aids test amid fears that Tommy Morrison, whom he bent last October, has tested HIV positive. Morrison, a former World

Boxing Organisation cham-pion, was "medically sus-pended" hours before he was due to fight in Las Vegas on

Saturday.
The bout, against Arthur Weathers, would have been Morrison's first since he was stopped in the sixth round by Lewis and the promoter Panos Eliades, who handles Lewis's affairs, said: "We'd better get our man tested. There was a lot of blood in that fight."

Most of it was spilled by Morrison, but Lewis's manager Frank Maloney refused to over-react yesterday. 'Until we know what Morrison's problem is there are no steps to be taken. If it is found there is a problem, then we'll think again." he said.

Lewis is in Jamaica but his next fight, against the former WBO champion Ray Mercer, has been confirmed for Madison Square Garden on May 10, It will be the former WBC champion's fourth outing since he lost his title and un-beaten record to Oliver Lewis has stopped Lionel Butler. Justin Fortune and Morrison since that night at said.

Suspended. It's a snocking 33 Onto thing to hear that you've been 35 October 1865 39 Bd5

Chess

Kasparov's

WO down, four to go and honours even. Deep Blue's victory in the first game in Philadelphia was due to that of arrogance by Garry Ka-sparov, In the second, the be challenging for his former title in the autumn. world champion, opted for at-trition and eventually wore down the number-cruncher.

homa and his trainer Tom Virgets refused to confirm that the fighter had tested	9p5.5 White:	ne numb Daap Biu	e	he
positive. "Everything is spec- ulation." he added.	First ga	Kasparov me		
Marc Ratner, executive director of the Nevada Athletic Commission, said he could provide no specifics on the suspension because of legal constraints. "I have been instructed very carefully by the attorney-general's office not to say anything more," he said. Only one boxer has tested positive for the Aids virus in Nevada since the state first started testing in the late Eighties. In 1991 a junior featherweight undercard fighter did so and was suspended indefinitely. Morrison's fight against	1 e4 3 exuf5 5 Mi3 7 h3 9 Be3 11 a3 11 a3 15 Oxe2 17 Bg5 19 Nc4 21 Rtd1 23 d51 25 b31 27 Oc5 29 Nxb7 31 93 33 Nd6 35 Nd67+ 37 Rxh7+ 995-5.5 Whites	c5 Oxd6 Bg4 Bh5 cxc4 Ba5 Ce? 0-0 Bd6 Rid8 t5? Rxd6 t5? Rxd6 Kh8 d4? Ne5 Nc3 Re1+ Kg7 Resigns		State of the state
Weathers - the first of a	Second	Deep Blue	9	

planned series under his new promoter Don King — would have been his first in Nevada since he beat George Foreman in 1993. Virgets said Morrison was scheduled to fight two weeks later in Virginia and would then meet a top-10 contender on the undercard of the Mike Tyson-Frank Bruno WBC title fight in Las Vegas on March 16. 15 Cxc6 Virgets told Morrison in the casino of the MGM Grand on Saturday that he had been suspended. "It's a shocking 33 One Morris urges ITV to think again

29 Be4 Rxs2 31 Ql3 Rs1 33 Ql5 Qh8 35 Qc8+ Kg7 37 Bd5 Ke7 39 Bd5 Ke7 41 Bo4 Qc8 43 Qb5 Qd7 45 Qa7+ Qd7 47 Qa3+ Qd6 49 Bd7 e4 51 Qa3+ Kd7 32 Rxa1 8xa1 34 Og4+ Ki8 36 Og4+ Ki8 38 8c6 Ki8 40 Ol3 8c3 42 Od5 Qe6 44 Qc5+ Od6 46 Oa8 Oc7 48 Oa2 15 50 Bh5 Of6 . 52 Oa7+ Kd8 54 Be8+ Ke7 56 Qc7+ Kt8 58 Kg2 Be1 60 M ext3 62 M Ke8 64 Qc5+ Kd8 land sprang a surprise in the first match of the World Indoor Championships at the New Zealanders se-Preston yesterday when cured a quarter-final place, they defeated the pairs having come from behind

Blacks Deep Blue Second game 2 d4 e6 4 Bg2 N6 6 p4 dxp4 8 Na3 cxd4 10 Ob3 0-0 12 Nxe5 Rb8 14 Nxe5 Bxc6 16 Rb1 Rb6 18 Bg5 Be7 20 Bx16 gx16 22 Oxa7 Rb8 24 Rxb6 Cxb8 lce Hockey

Panthers out of title hunt after back-to-back defeats

OWAN BRASSEY and and Noel Graham of Ire-land Giddy of New Zea-land sprang a surprise in The match lasted 27 ends

eighth seeds Ian McClure in all three sets.

Vic Batchelder

THE two defeats sustained by Nottingham Panthers at the weekend effectively HE two defeats sustained reduced the Premier Division title chase to a two-horse race. While the third-placed side lost, those above them. Sheffield Steelers and Cardiff their games.

Now the Steelers have 48 points and the Devils one fewer with both sides having seven matches left to play, one more than Nottingham who are eight points adrift. However, the Panthers chairman John Flavill says they have their sights set on membership of the proposed new all-professional ice Hockey Super League next season and he is confident

the required financial backing in place. And our rink facilities do meet the criteria that have been asked for,"

better than the present 3,000 capacity, 57-year-old Notting-ham Ice Stadium can offer if plans to be announced today for a new multi-million pound three-rink complex including an 8,000 seat arena come to fruition on schedule in the year 2000.

On Saturday, despite a Paul Adey hat-trick, Panthers were beaten 7-5 by Newcastle War riors. The result was decided by the Warriors' Scott Morrison who fired his side's seventh goal into an empty net 20 seconds from time, Panthers having replaced their netminder with an extra skater as they desperately sought an equaliser.

There was no such climax to their game at Cardiff on Sunday where Nottingham suffered their heaviest defeat of the season in losing 8-2 to the Devils, who had won 5-4 at Milton Keynes the night before after leading 5-1 at the end of the first period.

Sheffield stayed top by following Saturday's 5-1 win at Basingstoke with a 5-3 vic-tory over the Warriors at cannot allow this situation to anxious to defend its position at Basingstoke with a 5-3 vic-

Rugby League

scare to beat Scotland's

John Jackson and David

lead 2-1 but were in trouble | difficult."

Slaven. They recovered the fourth set and it went to after losing the first set to a decider then it would be

Leeds seek injunction on Innes

A relieved Schuback said:

"I told Kelvin that if we lost

John Huxley

RAIG INNES flew out to join the Australian club Manly-Warringah yesterday and towards what threatens to be a major international row.

The 27-year-old former All Black left with more than two years of his contract with Leeds still to run. The club will be seeking an injunction to prevent lines from repudiating his contract and playing in Australia. Leeds's chief ex-ecutive Alf Davies said the League was supporting the club's action.

Maurice Lindsay, the Rugby League chief execu-tive, said: "We've been given sight of Craig Innes's contract and it would appear that Leeds are perfectly correct to challenge what is nothing less than an inducement by the Australian club."

have no real complaint
against Craig himself, who go without taking action."

There have been uncon- with the Australian Rugby firmed reports that Innes's League while the British contract in Australia is worth game is aligned with Rupert a total of £350,000. The player has been trying to negotiate a release from his Leeds contract for several weeks. Last week the club an-

nounced that although they were resigned to losing Innes he had agreed to stay for the remainder of their Challenge Cup campaign. But after Leeds's 30-10 fifth round win at Warrington on Saturday. in which lines scored a try. the New Zealander said he regarded the agreement as being for that one tie only.

Innes's departure is the latest in a series of blows suf-fered by Leeds. Their hooker James Lowes surprisingly moved to Bradford Bulls when his contract run out two weeks ago, their assistant coach Ellery Hanley has joined Sydney Tigers and last week financial pressures saw Davies said: "While we them put the New Zealand

because Manly are registered

Murdoch's rival Super League organisation and the two bodies have been locked in court action in Australia.

If Innes were to succeed in playing for Manly without penalty for leaving Leeds that could prove serious for

the British game because a number of players are due to join the ARL at the end of their contracts and they could be tempted to leave earlier. The Centenary season First Division champions Salford have re-opened talks with rugby union's Sale, who want

to play at the Willows in the winter after selling their Heywood Road ground for re-development and before moving to a new home in Trafford. Salford, who ended Wigan's 43-match winning run in the Challenge Cup, have been

drawn at home to the new favourites St Helens in the

QUARTER-FINALS.
SILK CUT CHALLENGE CUP Counter.
Than draws Hallian or Sheffield v Loeds.
Sakord v Si Helens; Bradford v Wakefield
Hull v Dowsbury or Widnes.
Ties to be played on 24/25 February



OHN MORRIS, secretary of the British Boxing Board of Control, yesterday arged it to reconsider its decision to pull out of big-fight coverage. The switch-off will be a financial blow to the promoters and will make it harder to push new talent.

"I'm asking I'l' to consider the position seriously," said the position seriously, said po

right moves

all-too-human characteristic

Black:	Kasparov	•	
First ga	me		
1 84	cš	2 c3	đ5
3 exd5	Qxd5	4 d4	NIFE
S NES	Ba4	6 Be2	96
7 h3	Bhs	8 0-0	Ncs
9 Ba3	cxd4	10 cxd4	B b4
11 a3	Ba5	12 Nc3	Qd6
13 Nb5	Qe7	14 Ne5	Bxe
15 Oxe2	0-0	16 Rac1	Rac
17 Bg5	Bd6	18 Bxt6	gxit
19 Nc4	Rtd8	20 Nxb6	axb
21 Rtd1	15?	22 Qe3	Q16
23 d5!	Rxd5	24 Rxd5	exd
25 b3!	Kh8	26 Qxb6	Rg8
27 Qc5	d4?	28 Nd6	14
29 Nxb7	Ne5	36 Od5	13
31 g3	Nd3	32 Rc7	Re8
33 Nd6	Re1+	34 Kh2	Not2
35 Nx17+	Kg7	36 Ng5+	K _h 6
37 Fixh7+	Resigns		
9p5.5	_		

their application will be successful.
"We are confident we have 66 Oxf5 Oc6 68 Qe7+ KB

Those facilities will be even Newcastle on Sunday.

Sports Guardian

in place and set to think positive

Edward Harris in Ahmedabad

HILE Colombo's luxu-rious Taj Samudra Hotel kept 14 rooms West Indies have a last-min west indies nave a last-minute change of mind and de-cide to play in Sri Lanka, Eng-land travelled the 16 hours from Calcutta via Delhi in preparation for tomorrow's opening game against New

Under the strict 'no moans policy which Mike Atherton's side have adopted there were few complaints about the 4.30am start or the extended journey, but it hardly consituted ideal match preparation. Neither side has been able to stage a full-scale practice session since last

Thursday.
If England win tomorrow and then dispose of the United Arab Emirates on Sunday and Holland the following Thursday they will book a quarter-final place be-fore meeting the group B joint favourites South Africa and

Pakistan.
On the face of it, a New Zealand side no longer boasting the likes of batsmen Martin Crowe, Ken Rutherford and Mark Greatbatch — a trio of proven match-winners now either injured or out of favour — should not pose too much of a problem. The Kiwis are further handicapped by Chris Cairns' calf strain which is likely to retrict his bowling to

However, a side containing such unfamiliar names as Na than Astle, who has spent the past two summers appearing for Farsley in the Bradford League, Craig Spearman, Lee Germon and Robert Kennedy could develop quickly into a

dangerous unit.
They have just beaten Zimbabwe in a home one-day international series and possess recent experience of Indian conditions through touring here before Christmas.

'I think New Zealand will be a decent side, especially on these pitches where their medium-pacers and spinners might be difficult to get away," said England's manager Ray Illingworth. "But it is up to us to get our game right and I wouldn't grumble about the way the group fix-tures have worked out."

England will leave team decisions until they have seen the Ahmedabad pitch and carried out a final check on their injuries. Robin Smith is definitely out with a pulled groin muscle but could be fit to face

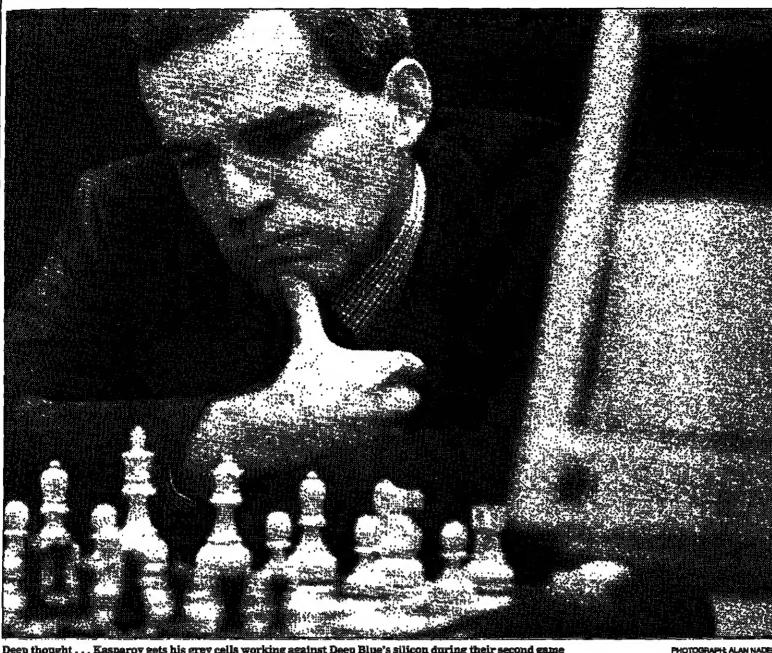
Neil Fairbrother, who may need to wear a protective pad on the palm of his right hand after sustaining a nasty cut during fielding practice in Calcutta, and Dominic Cork (sore knee) are both expected

England's main areas of uncertainly concern the choice of Atherton's opening partner and whether to play both their front-line spinners. Phillip DeFreitas could be used as a top of the order hitter to take advantage of the first 15 overs when only two fielders are allowed inside the 30-yard

Whether both Richard Illingworth and Neil Smith make the final XI depends on how England view the pitch. Even if both spinners play, however, neither is likely to open the bowling. That ploy has been used successfully by New Zealand and Dipak Patel may once again by used in that role. The English-born former Warwickshire batsman Roger Twose is also likely to play.

Mike Selvey p15

England Kasparov Fights Back against the computer



Deep thought . . . Kasparov gets his grey cells working against Deep Blue's silicon during their second game

Man draws level with Monster

HE world chess champion Gary Kasparov struck a blow for the bounced back from a crushing opening-round defeat to outsmart the Deep Blue IBM a 73-move marathon.

In avenging his loss, Kasparov may have discovered a winning strategy for this latest confrontation betweer human and machine over the chess board.

A relieved Kasparov explained that by playing quietly, he could luil the com-puter he calls "The Monster" into opening its defence and exposing counterattack. itself

"If you threaten, the machine will counterattack," Ka-sparov said. "But if there is no threat, the machine will go about its business and eventually give you an

In the second game of the six-round match, kasparov curbed his usual aggressive tal approach that eventually short-circuited Deep Blue But it still took a tense 6hr 45min before Kasparov could claim victory to the cheers of "Bravo! Bravo!" from some 200 spectators in the Pennsylvania Convention Centre in Philadelphia.

After his 73rd move, Kasparov was well on his way to converting one of three passed pawns into a queen; Deep Blue had little option but to resign.

"Kasparov managed to develop a plan that extended beyond the computer's horizon," said the chess aficionado David Levy. "Ar-guably, the computer didn't know what was going on." Deep Blue, however, has al-ready made history with its unexpected trouncing of Ka-sparov at the weekend. It was the first time that a machine

had beaten a world champion

rules in which each player How Kasparov has two hours for the first 40 ground out An overconfident Kasparov

lost the opening game in 37 moves, when he paid the price for his aggression. The attacking strategy that failed him on Saturday, Kasparov said, would have succeeded against any human player.

that we are now seeing for the first time what happens when quantity becomes quality. The depths of this computer's calculation gives it positional strength." Kasparov said. In 1989, Kasparov had little trouble in disposing of Deep Thought, IBM's prototype for Deep Rive

Deep Blue. The present match is attracting as much attention as last year's world championship, when Kasparov easily retained his crown against the Indian player Vishnand

After Deep Blue's loss, Joel Benjamin, an American grandmaster advising the

victory after rash beginning

Leonard Barden

trolled and precise chess of his life for the rest of this week if he is to beat Deep Blue by a wide enough mar-gin to uphold his self-styled role as the last defender of

puters at speed chess, and if Deep Blue beats him again in tonight's third of six games, all Kasparov's mas-sive successes against other grandmasters will not save him from a blemished

IBM team, said tetchily:
"Well, we never thought we'd
go undefeated." The third
game begins today.

night after playing against
a computer in a game like
this." said the world champion. "The number of

GARRY Kasparov needs to play the most con-

humanity against silicon. The Russian has already lost several times to com-

reputation.
"You have a sleepless

moves this monstrous! machine can calculate pre-vents it from making a positional mistake within reach of its calculation. It's the first time that we're playing not just with a wipeout.

Simple computer but with Although Deep Blue's

In the first game, Kasparov did everything wrong, from a risky bishop move early on to failing to double rooks at move 21 or to offer a queen trade at move 27. The result was an open, fluid position tailor-made for Deep Blue's 200 million moves per second calculations, and at the end **Easparov** had the ignomina

of resigning a position where he himself threat-ened instant checkmate. By game two he had already changed to a com-puter-hostile strategy: a careful, closed opening, nicking small advantages, and grinding the machine down in a possibly drawn endgame by interminable long-range manoeuvres designed to extend beyond the computer's horizon.

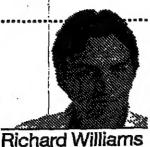
At the start Kasparov clearly underestimated his opponent, as did grandmasters and chess experts worldwide who predicted a

something that has its own prototype, Deep Thought, intelligence." Britain's Tony Miles, Kasparov crushed it in 1989. IBM then poured in millions of dollars into this single machine, an ostentatiously different approach from its rivals Intel which developed speed chess ma-chines and also sponsored chess worldwide.

However, Deep Blue failed badly in a German tournament in 1993 and it seemed that IBM had bought itself a very expen-sive white elephant. No wonder that when Kasparov resigned the first game and stormed off the stage, the Deep Blue programmers all celebrated as if they had just been given a reprieve after being Death Row.

Chess moves, page 15

Little girl lost tries again as America's comeback kid



Richard Williams

OOR Jennifer. She just wanted to be like all the other kids. As an adolescent in the af fluent suburbs of Florida that meant needing to paint her fingernails black, listen to loud guitar music, consider the possibilities of navel-piercing, and get a little harm-

lessly wrecked. Millions of kids follow such an agenda every day, and wise parents understand that. Notwithstanding the perils of late 20th Century western civilisa-tion, most adolescents stand a good chance of coming out the other side in reasonable shape to face adulthood and evolve into fully contributing members of society. They just need to be left alone for a year or two, preferably in a sound-proofed room.

Jennifer Capriati did not get the chance. These pur-suits, a variation on the adolescence most of us shared, do not constitute a satisfactory application for membership of the Women's Tennis Association tour, an organisation that sometimes seems to have been beamed down from a distant

How could a girl who attracted more than a million dollars' worth of product en-dorsements at the age of 18 ever hope to live an ordinar; life? But when Jennifer refused to live the extraordinary one that others had planned for her, the failure to conform left her alone, Which, given the options available, was probably exactly how she wanted it.

HAT must her life have been like as she was fed to the machine piece by piece? Pushed from infancy by a wickedly ambitious father. aken up in childhood by Mark McCormack's International Management Group, her face was on magazine covers before she had done anything to justify it. And then it

Try to think of a way to torture a teenage girl, and then remember the time a reporter asked Capriati — asked her right out, in front of a roomful of people — whether she had lost a match because she had put on too much weight. By the time she was 16, even win-ning a match left her in a state

13 in a top position, church

of existential despair, confused and incoherent.
The subsequent tale of wellpublicised disasters — an acquittal on a petty shoplifting
charge and a motel-room bust
that found her in possession of some funny clearettes — reaches a new chapter in Paris today when Caprioti, now aged 19, attempts her second comeback. The latest in a whole series of recent

sporting returns, it is by far he most poignant. Maybe Chris Evert can do for Capriati what Martina Navratilova did for Monica Seles last year: chaperone her along the path to normality, if that is how one can describe the world of top women tennis

No one is better qualified than Evert, who knows everything there is to know about life on the tour, to help the girl who once seemed destined to succeed her as the teen queen of American tennis, but who turned out to be tragically illsuited to the job. And at the WTA awards dinner during last year's US Open, Evert had Capriati as a guest on her table — the former prodigy's first real public appearance since an abortive comeback the previous winter, when she briefly re-emerged after drugs rehabilitation and psychiatric

HATEVER happens to her this time, Capriati has made at least one significant contribution to her sport. Her fall was so public, and so hurtful to the image of the women's tour, that the age-limit rule was changed. Ironically, this was the very rule that had been bent — at the behest of everybody with a financial stake in the property - to allow her to take part in a senior tournament one week

before her 14th birthday. At least the new generation of tennis tots — Martina Hinris, Venus Williams, Anna Kournikova — and those who follow them will be protected from such million-dollar expo sure until they are old enough to drive a car as well.

It is surely no coincidence that Capriati's only big win was at the Olympic Games in 1992, where she best Steffi Graf for the gold medal. In the athletes' village in Barcelona, removed from the stifling atmosphere of the women's tour, she found light and freedom, and a way to be herself, if only

temporarily.
If Evert is continuing to take an interest, perhaps she can find the words to tell Capriati that she need not sur-render all of berself to the demands of the tennis circuit, that she can retain a measure of the real Jennifer, whoever that may be.

ithoo! : "5

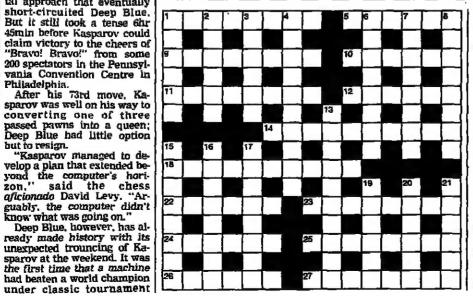
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10 miles

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Across 1 Greeks without, Paris is lacking time within (8)

5 A monkey rushes about 9 Plenty of corpora

19 Cake found in city den (6)

11 Whatever is inside is 12 A lot of money in a cartor

14 Tremendous object se outside Neath? (10)

18 Queen holding Imperial eader in Egypt (10) 22 After midnight many see phantoms (6)

23 Witches and social worker coming to a mutual ement (8) 24 Join together again in fact (6)

Guardian Crossword No 20.574 a pleasure-seeker (8)

> 26 Fuel one found in parts of Leeds (6) 27 Loose Nutcracker number

Down 1 Comfort a cold fish outside

entrusted with a mission? 3 Worked hard to set up food shop (5)

4 A poisonous plant almost eads to terrible deaths (10) 6 Measures the acres in a new way (8) 7 Island resort - straight part

with nothing round (8)

8 Generalship: destruction of

targets to military end (8)

15 Sick with greed, terribly worried (8 16 Drink -- one featured in French newspaper (8)

17 is beliet set in prison? (8)

Set by Orlando

19 Old English - not any love of Paris (6) 20 Like Hamlet and his play (6) 21 Old coin for one setting

Solution temerrow

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Neu-Isenburg/Zeppelimbelm, Germany,
Nord Edder, 18721 rue du Caire, 18769 39052 Roubalx, Cedex 1, France, for and on
behall of the Gusrdian and Manchester
Evening News PLC - 48,674, Turesday
February 13, 1996 Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office ISSN 02691-3027
Londonz, 7619phone 0771-279, 2332. Telex
811746 (Gusrd G). Fax 0771-537 1971-611 9000
Bismchesteran, Tel fursies 2000.

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